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The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Largest Weekly Sportfishing Magazine in the United States!

ISSUE NUMBER 18 ★ MAY 1st, 1980

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The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Largest Weekly Sportfishing Magazine in the United States!

Volume 15, Number 18 — May 1st, 1980

Features:

Fighting Chair: GAS FOR FISHING ..... W. A. Muller 4
TACKLE DOCTOR ..... Doc Lee Niboraes 14
FISHERMAN NEWS ..... Fred Guardineer 15
National Scene: SELLING A LICENSE ..... Al Ristori 16
Surf Fishing: SMALL FISH ..... John Fritz 18
Fish Talk: CATCHING-UP ..... W. A. Muller 20
Old-Timers' Corner: "OLD MARTIN..." ..... Matt Ahern 22
L. I. FISHING PIERS ..... N.Y.S. Council 24
MACKS FOR BASS ..... Capt. Zac Grossman 26
RENTAL SKIFFS ..... Sal Terranova 28

Departments:

Fighting Chair 4
Fishing License 6
Club News 8
Boating 8
New Products 9
Free Lures 10
New Books 11
Pass It On 12
Discount Coupon 13
Fishing Reports 30
Classified Ads 52
Tide Tables 55

About the Cover—

A Fred Guardineer water-color captures a weakfish, sea bass and a porgy in their natural habitat. See fishing reports on the first rod and reel weakfish.

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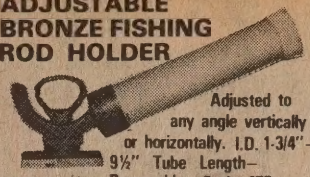

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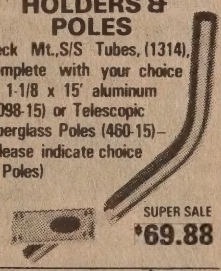

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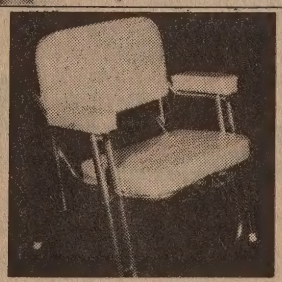

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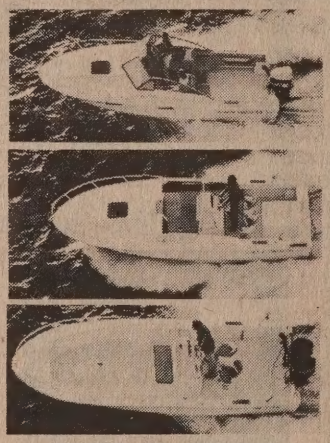

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The Fighting Chair

with William A. Muller

PROVIDE GAS FOR FISHING!

EDITOR'S NOTE: ***The following is the text of a letter recently sent to the New York Energy Office.***

Ms. Helene Conroy
New York State Energy Office
Agency Building 2
Rockefeller Plaza
Rockefeller Plaza
Albany, NY 12223

Dear Ms. Conroy:

The Long Island Fisherman and fisherpersons of New York State appreciate the opportunity to expess our views on energy allocations for boating and fishing.

The public hearing (April 14, 1980) at the Hempstead Town Hall was, unfortunately, scheduled at a time of great transportation crisis in the New York Metropolitan Area. The New York City transit strike, combined with the threat of a Long Island Rail Road strike, placed great pressure on our roadways and caused people to be reluctant to travel except for reasons of highest priority. Therefore, we ask that you accept written testimony from concerned citizens with the same interest and importance as you would from those present at this hearing.

The Long Island Fisherman is very concerned about energy allocations for boating and fishing since much of Long Island's economy, particularly in the East End, is dependent upon tourism, fishing, and recreation. A reduction of energy allocations to our region for these purposes could produce severe financial hardships for individuals, entire families, and in some cases, whole communities. Since many of these activities are seasonal, inadequate energy allocations interfere with normal commerce, swell the ranks of the unemployed, increase the rate of business failures, and thus contribute to growing social welfare rolls and plunge Long Island's already struggling economy into deeper recession.

In order to illustrate the profound impact that reduced fuel allocations would have on our overall economy, we would like to offer the following data that we have collected with painstaking accuracy over the past few years.

Considering only Long Island and, therefore, discounting southern Connecticut, northern New Jersey, and the lower Hudson Valley, there are 773 businesses directly related to recreational fishing and boating. The following data does not include other related industries that would be negatively affected such as bait wholesalers, motels, gas stations, parts distributors, fishing guides, clothing and apparel retailers, bait harvesters, mechanics, painters, fiberglass experts, and tackle manufacturers and distributors. Clearly, these industries employ tens of thousands of people in our region.

Nonetheless, the 773 businesses that are most intimately related to recreational fishing and boating will likely be the ones to experience immediate hardship in the event of reduced fuel allocations. There are 75 headboats (partyboats), 190 charter boats, 123 fishing stations, 180 bait and tackle stores, and 205 marinas, for a total of 773. Most of these businesses are "Mom and Pop" type and they usually employ substantial numbers of local community citizens. They also pay taxes which contribute to the general vitality of their communities, townships, and counties.

When we speak of energy allocations for recreational fishing and boating, it must be remembered that planning of adequate allocations must extend beyond the direct channel to marinas and dockside pumps. Many fishermen own small, highly efficient outboard engines and the

tanks for these engines are most conveniently and efficiently refueled at local service stations. In 1979, during the late spring and early summer fuel shortages, many stations refused to fill six-gallon outboard tanks. We believe this situation was unfair and requires correction in the event of another fuel shortage.

Furthermore, even if fuel is available at dockside, if it is not available on roadways, boaters and fisherpersons will not be able to travel to the water, thus rendering marine energy allocations nothing more than an empty gesture.

Then, too, there are thousands of surf fishermen on Long Island and although they require no fuel for boats in order to fish, they do require fuel for their road and beach vehicles in order to fish. It seems unfair to us to provide allocations for boat fishermen without recognizing the legitimate needs of surf fishermen whose activities add markedly to the overall recreationally oriented economy described above.

We should also consider the social value of fishing, especially for children and senior citizens. "Taking a youngster fishing" has long been an activity directed motivation device to teach children strong social and moral values, replacing street problems with fishing enthusiasm. In fact, the American Tackle Manufacturers Association has promoted a campaign this year to "take a kid fishing." We should not overlook the social value of fishing with regard to a well-planned system of fuel allocations since these activities are extremely important in the maintenance of optimistic, enthusiastic, and government supportive attitudes among these citizens.

We also believe that those who develop energy allocation plans should consider the unique characteristics of different areas. Although in some counties, regions, and communities both jobs and recreational opportunities are close to residential areas, and mass transit facilities may be quite good, on Long Island mass transit is very limited and substantial distances must be traveled in order to participate in water-related recreation. Unfortunately, we have not yet discovered how to direct bodies of fish to areas close to where we live.

Long Island is also unique because so much of the business and community life is related to marine activities and thus, considering all present factors, the need for fuel is essential rather than auxiliary.

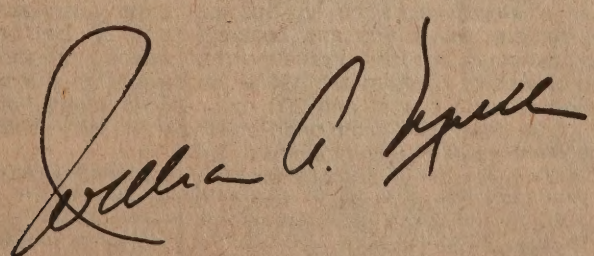
We also believe that the American life style should be given consideration in this planning since we have devoted much time, personal energy, and sacrifice in this century to providing ample leisure time for our citizens in the belief that balanced leisure and work experiences strengthen both the fiber and economy of our nation. Thus, leisure time without the practical means to use it could produce profound emotional and social upheaval.

Perhaps the key to planning allocations for boating can be found in recent statistics provided by the Boating Industry Associations. According to B.I.A., recreational boating consumes less than one-half of one percent of all gasoline consumed in the United States. Part of the explanation for the rather low rate of gasoline consumption in boating comes from the fact that boating is a part-time activity for most consumers, while driving a car is virtually a daily event. However, it is also important to note that 62.2 percent of all registered motorboats in the United States are less than sixteen feet long. These small craft are usually powered by relatively small and efficient outboard engines. To put this another way, the cars in southeastern New York State will consume more gasoline in one day than all of our recreational boats will use in an entire season.

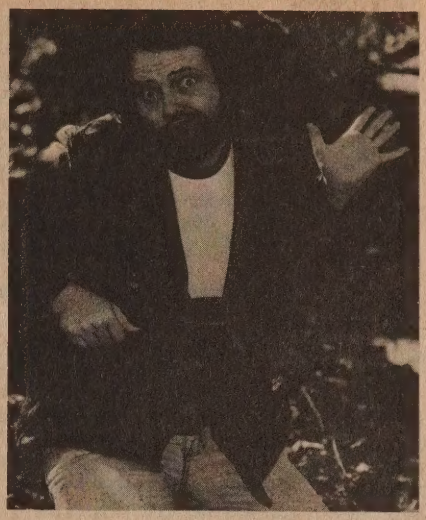
Thus, in light of these data we feel it is essential to Long Island's economy, consistent with our accepted life styles, and an efficient utilization of our energy resources to make available sufficient allocations of gasoline for recreational boating and fishing.

The New York State Energy Office has requested as much input as possible from fisherpersons interested in marine gasoline allocations. As you know, decisions are often made, at least in part, on the basis of taxpayer interest and concern.

Therefore, if you have strong feelings about this issue, please write to Ms. Helene Conroy at the address listed above this commentary.



TOM'S FISHFRY



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Case For A Saltwater Fishing License

READERS' COMMENTS

The following letters were received from readers in response to the series entitled "The Case For A Saltwater Fishing License" that recently appeared in* The Long Island Fisherman. *Representative letters such as these will be published until we feel that the issue has been fully aired. At that time, our readers will be polled via a postcard ballot that will be inserted in an issue of* The Fisherman. *Comments should be kept as brief and concise as possible and addressed to: The Long Island Fisherman, P.O. Box 1994, Sag Harbor, New York 11963, Att.: Saltwater License Department.

Here is a list of other sportsmen activities that should be considered for licensing:

Hiking (especially the way hiking erodes the earth); kite flying)licensed in March only); bike riding (18 yrs. and older); playing with our children in the park; nature walk; bird watching; playing marbles (kids only); sailing (or should only fishermen pay for new launches, docks, and maintenance thereof); etc., etc. *Lawrence J. Castro, Brooklyn, NY.*

Your letter omitted a few of the sporting activities that presently DO require a permit such as hunting, freshwater fishing, shell fishing, boating, snowmobiling, airplane piloting, etc., not to mention those sporting activities that require a fee for the use of facilities such as golfing, bowling, swimming, skiing, tennis, quoits, roller skating and horseshoes.

* * *

I think The Long Island Fisherman's campaign for a saltwater fishing license is a mistake.

Death and taxes may be the only sure things, but there's no sense in volunteering for either. Who says a saltwater fishing license is inevitable? It's not inevitable, it's just a dumb idea with precious few benefits for anybody and a lot of trouble for everyone. Why do you say it must come; is there a mass movement among marine anglers to be taxed? Have you heard hordes of fishermen clamoring for more government control in their lives? Are thousands of anglers wringing their hands because government is ignoring them? I think not. *Au contraire, mon ami*, most of us just pray the damn state stays as far away as possible.

I fish fresh and I fish salt and they are not the same. Lakes and streams can be stocked, so I kick in my two bits to pay for that. But you can't stock the ocean. And I don't want the government's heavy hand to come down on salt fishing just for the sake of a few more ramps to help out those guys who trailer boats. And as for managing tghe the resource—the 200-Mile limit, the regional councils, and oceanographic institutes are finally studying the habitat needs and the populations of our fish. Without a license.

It costs a lot of money to catch a fish today. Travel, bait, fuel, fees and permits add up; for those of us who fish for food it's getting to be more trouble than it's worth. Remember most of us fish to bring something home for the table, not to support a "recreation fishing industry." I suggest those of you in the industry fight to keep fishing simple or your multi-million dollar baby will disappear faster than it grew.

High interest rates and fuel costs have already put the squeeze on marinas, charter and private boat owners. Surfcasters, buggy owners, everybody is hurt by inflation. This sport of ours is in danger of being made obsolete, priced out of reach for most of us. Don't talk about "fishing machines," super "sticks" and other Madison Avenue mumbo jumbo. Keep your eye on the crisis of the everyday fisherman—how to trim the fat, cut costs, and get to the water. We've got to get back to basics and a license will do nothing to ease the crisis; it'll just make it worse. It will hurt everyone but the bureaucrats.

As for showing our political muscle—we don't need a license to be counted. Just put a post card in the L.I.F. and we'll mail it to the bureaucrats. They can count post cards, it's cheaper.

To sum up. The saltwater license is an ill-conceived non-issue. It's not inevitable unless you make it so. If enacted it will be just another unnecessary restraint on us and our pockets.

I do hope you'll reconsider your editorial position in light of the economic realities facing your readers. You are in a powerful position and it is your responsibility to lead. However, in a venture like this, look to the condition of your troops.

Finally, I'm an avid reader, one of your biggest boosters, and will follow the coming debate on the license very closely. *Robert Ferraro, New York, NY.*

Your suggestion that we put more postcards in L.I.F. such as the one protesting the Romer Shoals situation has been made by several readers. Problem is not that we wouldn't like to, but to insert a postcard such as that one cost us in excess of $2,000 in printing and insertion costs—a considerable sum in these parts. Concerning your comments about the fishing machines, you may be interested in knowing the publisher of L.I.F., Rich Reina, purchased a new fishing machine last year. It was a sixteen foot aluminum skiff powered by a 25 h.p. outboard. This rig replaced the fourteen foot car topper he had for twelve years that had more h oles sthan rivets in it. Take a look at the "recreational sport fishing industry" around you before you put those in it in the "big business" category as your letter implies. We're talking about charter boat captains, bait and tackle shop owners, rowboat station operators, mates and others who barely scratch out a living, not those who sit on the Board of Directors for one of the Fortune 500.

* * *

I am shocked at your "It's going to happen anyway" attitude about a Saltwater Fishing License. I wonder what the world's coming to when sportsmen can no longer turn their backs on "friends." Sportsmen pay out enough already!

Walking the beach in a bathing suit with a fishing rod in your hand, is probably the last place a working man can go to feel free of the world's licenses, taxes, etc. Having to carry a license would just take the heart out of fishing, especially since you and I know that the little guy on the beach won't get a damn thing out of it, except maybe to be hassled by some tin start with a quota to make.

A Saltwater Fishing License bill, and those who support the bill should be fought to the finish and an attitude like yours doesn't help in that fight. *Woodshed Hunting & Fishing Club.*

Funny that we have never received any correspondence from your club until now complaining about the lack of facilities for sport fishermen or voicing concern for our marine environment. Nor have we seen a spokesman from your club get up and testify at a public hearing. Perhaps you could tell us just what it is exactly that your club DOES fight for—other than against a saltwater license.

* * *

Before you presented your article on a case for a fishing license, I have to admit I was totally against a saltwater license, basically because I felt it was a way of camouflaging

another form of tax.

But having a love for fishing, I deeply feel something must be done to protect and improve the fishing in our coastal waters, not only for us, but for future generations to come.

Six-fifty is not a lot of money when one considers how many times one goes out fishing anticipating a dynamite day just to come back depressed, with practically an empty bucket, knowing deep down that it was a result of the condition of our waters, dumpings, nettings by commercial fishing boats and what have you.

You asked your readers to be fair and wait before making up our minds until all facts were presented, and I have. However, I have a question relating to the license which is not clear to me, and perhaps many other people who use party boats regularly for their fishing.

I understand that I would not have to purchase a license because of the blanket coverage on a party boat.

My question is: how and who would absorb this blanket coverage?

If the Captain passes this cost on to his customers, wouldn't a person who uses a party boat regularly wind up paying many times over the price for a license? Thereby making this terribly unfair to those using party boats?

I hope when the time comes for voting, your readers use their conscience and vote Yes.

Thanks to you and your informative articles I will vote yes. *Danny Rodriguez, N.Y., N.Y*

Under the provisions of the Model License, the maximum fees that would be paid for blanket licenses are $50 for a six-man charter boat and $200 for a large party boat. These fees are quite nominal when you consider the alternatives of requiring all anglers on these boats to have either a yearly license or temporary one-day license, which would surely discourage the occasional fisherman and have an adverse economic impact on this segment of the sport fishing industry. Because of this important concession to them, we don't expect that most boat operators would attempt passing on the nominal cost of the blanket license to their customers—opting instead to absorb the cost as part of their normal operating expenses. If divided evenly among the passengers who fish on a vessel yearly, the cost would only be pennies per angler. Unfortunately, there will always be those opportunists who will tack on another half-a-buck to the fare for the "license," but they will always be with us.

* * *

I found an awful lot of magazines of all types awaiting me when I returned from Florida. The first thing to catch my eye was the issue of a fishing license and hence the other periodicals have gone unread. I've read the pros and cons and have come to the conclusion that the politicians are not going to let us off the hook—not even if 80% of us opposed it.

I do not have any facts or figures on how many saltwater fishermen th ere may be, nor where they reside. Without question, though, most of the saltwater surrounds Long Island and far and away the prime fishable areas are off Nassau and Suffolk Counties. Obviously the bulk of the monies realized from the license fees would be spent in this area not only for the improvements stressed, but in employee's salaries, construction costs and materials, etc. The question that comes to mind, is how far these two counties are prepared to go in sharing these facilities with other New Yorkers? It is my belief that before we speak of reciprocity with other states we determine where we as residents of the same state stand.

If the present *"VERBOTEN"* signs continue to stand and equal access and parking is not granted to all licensed fishermen from New York and neighboring states, it wouldn't make much difference whether the organization you plan or the "professionals" collected the money. A ramp one cannot use or park near is as good as none. The same goes for a pier, dock or stretch of beach unused by bathers. I imagine that you and the major portion of the staff live in either of the counties, towns and villages in question and it would be interesting if a little research were done on that facet of the problem.

I am glad I did not create this problem or have to face the many ramifications involved. You asked for opinions—now I've done my part. Good luck. *Edw. J. Haring, Bklyn., New York.*

If Nassau or Suffolk County used any state monies from the MRF Fund for fishing facilities, those facilities would have to be open to the general public and COULD NOT be limited to residents of the respective counties only. It is for this reason that many towns and counties will not accept Federal or state monies for local projects because of the "strings" that go with using same. A good example of this is the attitude of the east end townships concerning the Peconic Sanctuary. They are against the use of the Federal and state money that would go for the purchase because it would mean the loss of "local" control of the area. As a result of this shortsightedness, this important wetland area may well be lost to development. (See the "Fighting Chair: Peconic Sanctuary" in L.I.F. Issue #15, dated April 10, 1980.)

* * *

In the 4/17 Issue, you express concern regarding the occasional guest on a private boat who fishes very rarely—perhaps once a year—yet would need a license. I, too, am quite concerned, as a boat owner who fishes, but is not a SERIOUS fisherman; yet I enjoy fishing and taking an occasional friend or relative as guest.

A solution would be to have different categories of license: individual, family, or a license for an individual AND his guests on a private boat, up to a given size. This would parallel that which is being discussed for charter boats. If an individual license is to be $6, a $10 fee might be reasonable for a small boat owner to cover his guests—or $12 tops. **Martin Birnbaum, New Hyde Park, N.Y.**

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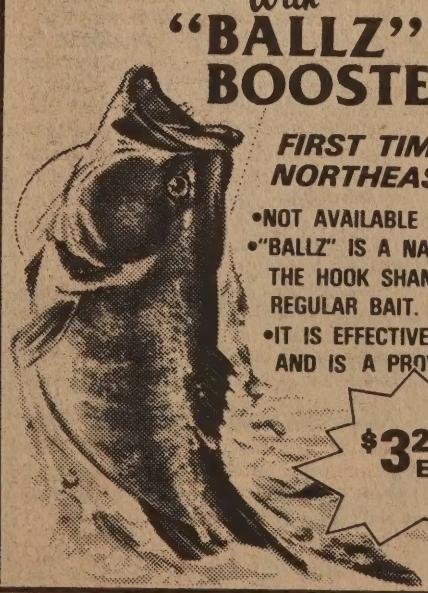

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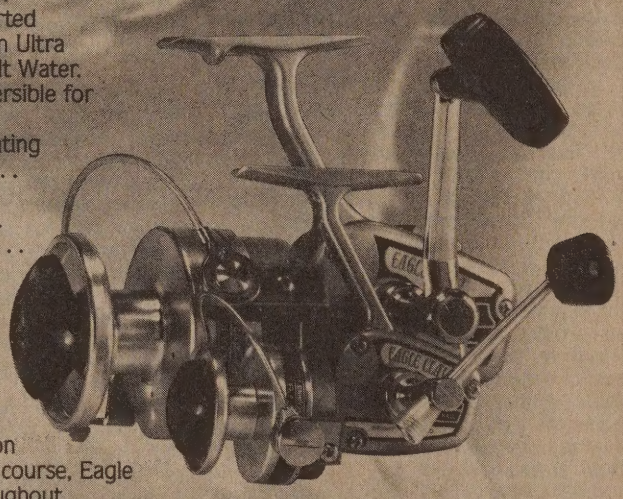

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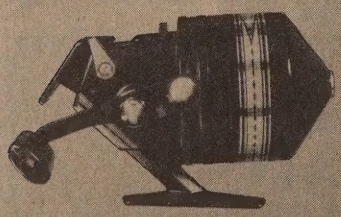

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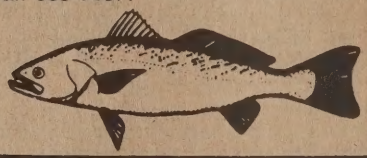
CLUB NEWS

BAY SHORE TUNA CLUB

The Bay Shore Tuna Club wishes to apologize to all those persons who could not be accommodated at our monthly dinner meeting on April 18, 1980. Featured was a well received presentation by Captain Frank Mundus. Shark fishing, of course. The evening was extremely enlightening and entertaining to all. The tickets were sold on a first come, first served basis, and we were sold out two weeks early.

So those who missed out, remember that for the next even, get your tickets early. To be on top of it, why not inquire about becoming a member of the Bay Shore Tuna Club. Call 665-0037.



BOATING

FEDERATED BOATMEN OF N.Y. PROTEST BOAT BAN

Letter addressed to: New York State Energy Office, Albany, N.Y.

Gentlemen: As President of FEDERATED BOATMEN OF NEW YORK, INC., and, currently, of its parent organization, NATIONAL BOATING FEDERATION, I have just learned that you propose to adopt, verbatim or nearly so, the standby energy control previously proposed by the Federal government which would ban boating on all or part of weekends—despite the fact that the Federal Department of Energy has indicated it will withdraw the proposal for various sound reasons. On behalf of the nearly 500,000 New York boatmen, I request you to reconsider and to drop the proposal.

I enclose herewith a copy of my statement and testimony before the Federal DOE; the same cogent arguments which persuaded that agency that its weekend boating ban was sheer idiocy should be equally persuasive with respect to your adoption of the same ban as a State program. Also enclosed is a copy of a letter from New York Commerce Commissioner William H. Hassett, Jr., concluding that singling out boating in this manner "should be opposed as unfair and discriminatory." Finally, as a member of New York's Boating Advisory Council and

a former member of its State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreational Program quinquennial review committee. I can tell you that it is the policy of New York to encourage this popular and rapidly growing recreation—not unfairly and discriminatorally to destroy it. Very truly yours, **Barry Golomb, President.**

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For further info, write to: Jet-Aer Corporation, 100 Sixth Avenue, Paterson, New Jersey 07524.

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For further information, contact Ande, Inc., P. O. Box 8366, West Palm Beach, FL 33407, (305) 842-2474.

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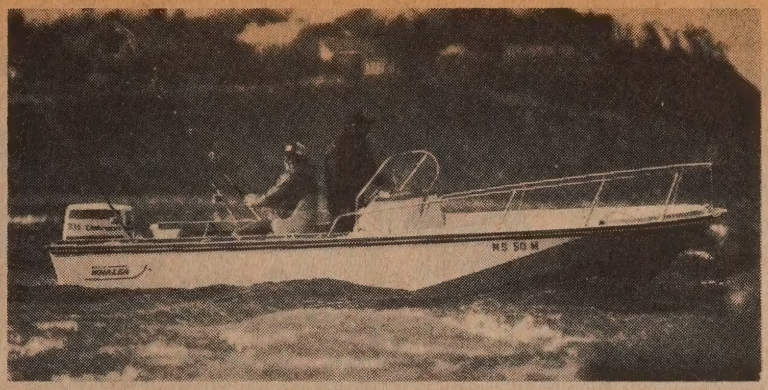

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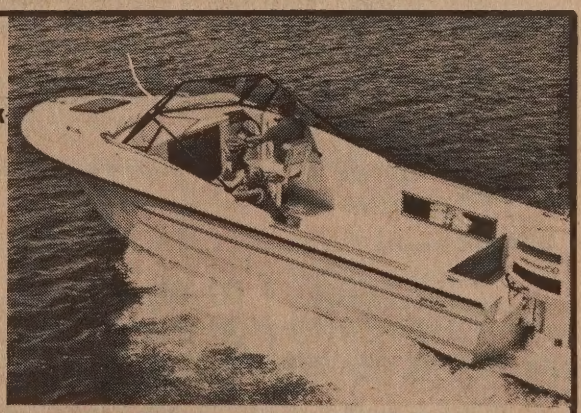

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NEW BOOKS

FRESHWATER FISHES OF NEW YORK STATE

Quickly now, how many kinds of salmon and trout can be found in New York State? You would know the answer if you had a new, handy pocket-guide from Cornell University.

"Guide to Freshwater Fishes of New York" is an illustrated, 140-page booklet just published by the New York State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell.

The new guide should appeal to beginners and experienced anglers; beginners will appreciate its simplicity, while those with experience will find the guide is a handy refresher. The guide could also be a valuable resource for libraries because it includes descriptions and illustrations of more than 100 fish species found in New York State's fresh waterways; most of these fish are also found in other northeastern states.

Quick and accurate identification of a fish can help an angler avoid misinterpreting regulations, something which the authors say could cause violations of fish and wildlife laws.

The Cornell Cooperative Extension publication was written by several members of the department of natural resources in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences: Daniel Decker, research associate, Ronald A. Howard, Jr., Extension associate, W. Harry Everhart, professor and department chairman, and John W. Kelley, associate professor and department Extension leader.

Non-technical keys in the guide rely primarily on colors, patterns and markings, location of fins, and other distinguishing features for easy identification. Other information describes fish habitats and indicates whether a fish is good for sport or for food. A bibliography and an index help anglers when it comes to both common and scientific names.

Designed to fit a tackle box, a hiker's pack, or a pocket, the guide has a sturdy cover and comes with a protective bag for outdoor use.

"Guide to Freshwater Fishes of New York" (S-108) is available for $2.50 from the Cornell University Distribution Center, 7 Research Park, Ithaca, NY 14850. Checks should be made payable to Cornell University. County offices of Cooperative Extension in New York State also have supplies of the guide to freshwater fishes.

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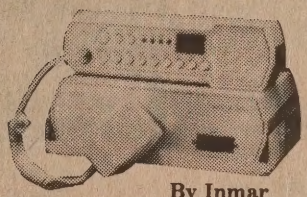

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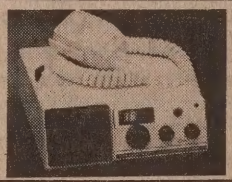

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Pass It On...

FREE "YOUTH DAY" AT LAKE RONKONKOMA

A free admission "Youth Day," presented by the Long Island Bassmasters, will be held at Lake Ronkonkoma's Town of Islip Beach Facility on May 18, 9AM-4PM. "Youth Day" festivities will include prizes, contests, films, and demonstrations. The demonstrations will feature instruction on lure making, fly tying, fishing rod construction and repair, boat safety and many other fishing related activities sure to interest even the youngest fisherman.

The Long Island Bassmasters, a non-profit, freshwater fishing organization, is a chapter of the Bass Anglers Sportsman Society. The Long Island Bassmasters' more than forty men and women membership is dedicated to the promotion of bass fishing and the protection and development of Long Island's freshwater fishing areas.

The Town of Islip Beach Facility is located on Rosevale Avenue in Lake Ronkonkoma.

MARINE ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL OF L.I. COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT POLICY

The Council takes the position that:

1. There are few remaining pristine coastal areas on Long Island and that immediate steps should be taken by local, state and Federal government bureaus to purchase these areas.

2. Natural areas of local, state and Federal coastal lands that are being destroyed by man's activities should be restored to a natural state and managed to preserve and protect these fragile environments.

3. Any development of the coastal zone be determined on the basis of water dependent zoning restriction. Commerce, industry, recreation, transportation and energy facilities should only be placed within the coastal zone where there is a dependence on water usage.

4. We support bills 8A and 9A of the N.Y. State Legislature calling for local coastal zone planning and establishing guidelines for coastal management.

5. There should be an immediate halt to any construction on Fire Island and Jones barrier island.

6. The Federal Flood Insurance Program should be repealed with regard to coastal zone flooding. This insurance only encourages housing in areas that are susceptible to impending storm damage.

7. We endorse the Long Island Regional Planning Board proposal concerning coastal zone management

INFLATION FIGHTER:

DISCOUNT COUPON OF THE WEEK

The *"L.I.F. DISCOUNT COUPON"* printed below is a regular feature of *The Long Island Fisherman* that we hope will help our regular subscribers to fight inflation. The coupons offer discounts on tackle, bait, marine electronics, boat rentals, fares on open boats and charter boats, etc. To use the coupon, just cut it out and bring it with you to the establishment offering the discount along with a recent copy of *The Long Island Fisherman* with the mailing label affixed to the front cover to prove that you are a current subscriber. If you are not a subscriber at the present time and wish to become one, just fill out the subscription blank that appears in this issue—which also entitles you to two free BOONE Shrimp Tout Lures as a free premium. Advertisers wishing to join the discount coupon program should contact Stu Miller at (516) 868-2391 *Today!*

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and the preservation of geographical areas of particular concern.

8. We are opposed to the piecemeal granting of Corps of Engineers permits in the coastal zone without establishing broad guidelines of coastal management that take into account the total effect of all individual projects; i.e., bulkheading, dredge waste dumping, etc.

9. We are opposed to the discharge of any pollution elimination system into marine waters.

10. We favor a saltwater fishing license **in conjunction** with monitoring and research activities concerning fishery stock.

TAKE ME FISHING—1980

The theme for the National Fishing Week May 12-18, 1980 is "Take A Kid Fishing." The Lower Bay Anglers Fishing Club and the Shore Drive Car Service have joined together to take 100 kids on a fishing trip. Financial sponsoring will be done by Shore Drive Car Service, whereas the formally organized Lower Bay Anglers, as a club effort, will chaperone the outing.

The fishing day will take place on the 69th St. Pier (at Shore Road and Bay Ride Ave) from 8AM to 2PM for flounders. The date is Saturday, **May 10, 1980** (with Sunday, May 11, 1980 as a rain date). The first 100 children from 8-14 years of age who are registered will be participants. Registration must be done by a parent or guardian, by signing a release form supplied at Shore Drive Car Service, 377 Bay Ridge Avenue (next to Jameson Smoke Shop) during the week of May 3-9, 1980, 10AM to 6PM. Upon signing, a safety-pinned button with sponsors names and "Take Me Fishing—1980" will be given to parent for child. The button is not transferable. On the day of the outing, it will entitle him/her to a free bologna sandwich with soda, hook, sinker, bait and how-to demonstration and talks by some of the best fishermen in the area. Any children who do not have a fishing rod and reel will be supplied with a drop line. Button and fishing tackle may be kept by children. Parents and guardians are welcome (bring your own lunch) to come.

If you have any questions, please call 238-2636 between 7PM and 11PM.

The Lower Bay Anglers are accepting new membership applications. We are a formally organized club with meetings held on every first Monday of the month, 7:30 p.m. at the Masonic Club, 76th St. and 4th Ave., Bay Ridge, Brooklyn. The meets usually have a 16mm color sound film selected from the AFMTA library and a talk and demo of some aspect of fishing.

For more info, contact Marty Gazzani, 6928 4th Ave., Brooklyn, New York 11209.

TACKLE DOCTOR

Questions answered by
Doc Lee Niboraes
of the Mayco Clinic

We have been looking for a saltwater aluminum tackle box from Hatteras to Cape Cod without much luck. Our present UMCO equipment has been more than satisfactory over the years, but with the accumulation of lures, rigs, and other odds and ends, we need a couple more.

We have perused every catalog produced in the States, we think, but all tackle boxes advertised are plastic which, in our vocabulary, is a bad word since the hinges corrode from the saltwater and then snap in cold weather.

Do you know of anywhere we can purchase a good sturdy aluminum box? Your help would be appreciated. *L.C. Ferguson.*

Because they corrode in saltwater, I do not know of any manufacturer who still makes an aluminum tackle box specifically designed for use along the coast. UMCO makes a few aluminum boxes for musky fishermen, but they do not recommend their boxes for saltwater.

Your experiences with so-called "plastic" tackle boxes must go back a long time when the first boxes did suffer from several problems. Today's plastics, however, are a far cry from the stuff sold 10 to 15 years ago. These modern plastics can be subjected to extremely hard use and resist all kinds of corrosion, rust, mildew, cracking, warping and any kind of failure. As an example, I have a Plano 747 style box with pull-out draws that I've used since 1971. The box has been bounced around in my buggy, soaked with spray in boats, beaten terribly by baggage handlers at airports and yet is still going strong. Not one hinge has broken, no handles have come loose, nothing has cracked and nothing has corroded or rusted. Tackle boxes made by Vlcheck, Rebel, Woodstream, Fenwick, and Old Pal are all just as durable. In fact the only of tackle box I would recommend is a plastic box.

My only objection to most tackle boxes designed today is the fact that many cannot hold the large plugs used by surf anglers or striped bass trollers. The new style Rebel and Plano with a single, fold-up lid can be adjusted to hold nearly any lure and if you are handy with a saw you can make your own large box out of plywood and slide the Rebel Excaliber or Plano Magnum boxes into it one on top of the other so they stack like a group of drawers. Many boaters do this and in fact, several center console manufacturers offer options called "tackle lockers" that include slots or shelves that stack two, three or more of these boxes.

Try the plastics again. I'm confident you will be pleasantly surprised.

* * *

Over the winter I plan to build another deep jigging and chumming rod. Can I use the new style Fuji "live fiber" reel seats on this type of heavy duty rod, and if so, is there any difference in installing the reel seat in comparison to a chromed brass seat? *J. Tartaglia.*

Yes, the seats can be used, and are known to be as strong or stronger than the other types of seats. They also transmit vibrations in the line much better to the angler's hands or fingers. There is no difference in glueing. Simply use a good quality two-part epoxy glue, like Metal-Set, and allow 24 hours proper curing of the glue.

* * *

I have a sixteen foot boat on a trailer that I would like to keep and launch on Staten Island. I was wondering if you could give me a list of the marinas available for the summer? *E. Brummer.*

Many of the best marinas advertise with The Fisherman during the fishing season and they offer both summer dockage or storage and launch facilities. For a complete listing of the many marinas available get a copy of the "Boaters Almanac" that covers Delaware up through the Hudson River. The book lists hundreds of ramps, marinas, and other boating services and is readily available at most marine supply stores and at some book stores.

* * *

I'm a photography buff and like to take photos of my buddies and family while we are fishing. I've tried to get pictures of jumping fish when fishing offshore at the Canyon, but have never come close to getting a shot like the marlin you had on a cover last year. I attended the super shark show and was really wowed by the terrific shots of the makos jumping high. How do you do it? What film, lens, camera, etc.? *D. Michaels.*

I get lucky once in awhile! Seriously, I use a pair of Nikons: one with a 35mm lens; another with a 105 short telephoto. The lenses are prefocused in the range where I hope the fish will surface, which you can usually tell by watching the line. I use either Kodachrome 64 for slides or Tri-X for black-and-white and try to shoot at a fast shutter speed, at least 1/500 of a second, at a reasonable f stop setting, like f5.6 or f8 to give me enough depth of field to be sure I have a wide (or deep) area in focus. Forget using long teles like a 200. You can't focus them quick enough. I use a motor drive on each camera, but use it in the single exposure mode to click off one shot at the peak of the jump, rather than a burst of shots that never seem to be what I want anyway.

I use the 35mm when the fish is in close to the boat; the 105 when it is away from the boat. The only filters are skylight #1A only to protect the lens from salt spray. The marlin represents about 20 exposures to get that one good one, and the shots you saw in the shark show are a small part of about 50 jump shots I took last year. Only a few will turn out good; the rest have the fish twisted in odd positions that do not look good as a print or slide. Shoot lots of film.

* * *

Each spring I have to go out and buy new charts because water, moisture or spilt coffees, sodas and beers have ruined the charts I used the prior summer. Is there any way to waterproof them or to buy plastic covers for them so this doesn't happen? *Don Wein*

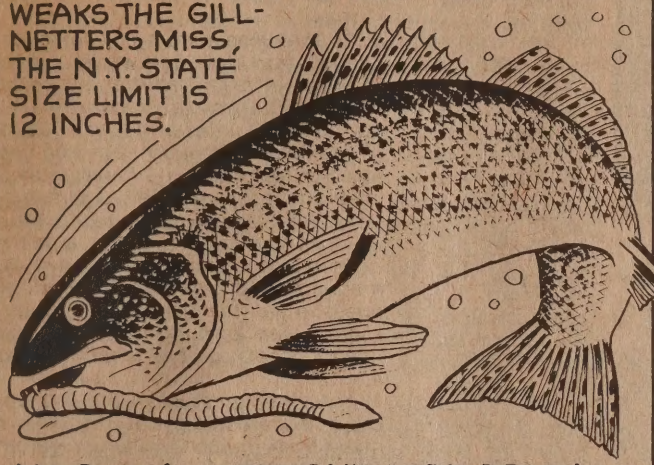
The Better Boating Association markets a vinyl, ziplock bag that will hold numerous charts and other valuable paper things you may carry on a boat. Its surface has a matte finish so you can use a grease pencil or non-permanent marker to plot courses directly on the vinyl bag without having to remove the charts, risking water damage.

Write to them at Box 407, Needham, Maine 02192 and ask about their "Chart Kit Zip Cover" and where to buy it.

FISHERMAN NEWS

BY FRED GUARDINEER

WEAKFISH MAKE THEIR SPAWNING RUN IN MAY AND HIT BAITED HI-LO RIGS AND LURES. LAST SEASON'S MOST EFFECTIVE LURE WAS THE PLASTIC JELLY WORM. IF YOU CATCH ANY WEAKS THE GILL-NETTERS MISS, THE N.Y. STATE SIZE LIMIT IS 12 INCHES.



AN 8 LB. 4 OZ. FRESHWATER DRUM OR SHEEPSHEAD IS A NEW N.Y. STATE RECORD FOR THIS SPECIES. IT WAS CAUGHT STILL FISHING WITH BAIT IN LAKE CHAMPLAIN. THERE WAS NO PREVIOUS RECORD FOR THIS FISH, A LANDLOCKED RELATIVE OF WEAKFISH AND CROAKERS.

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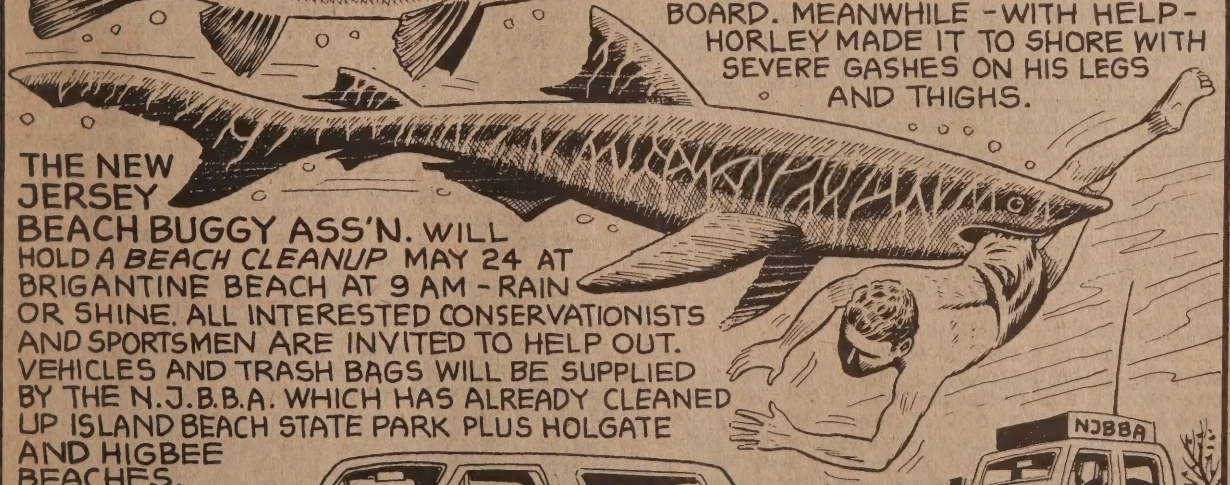
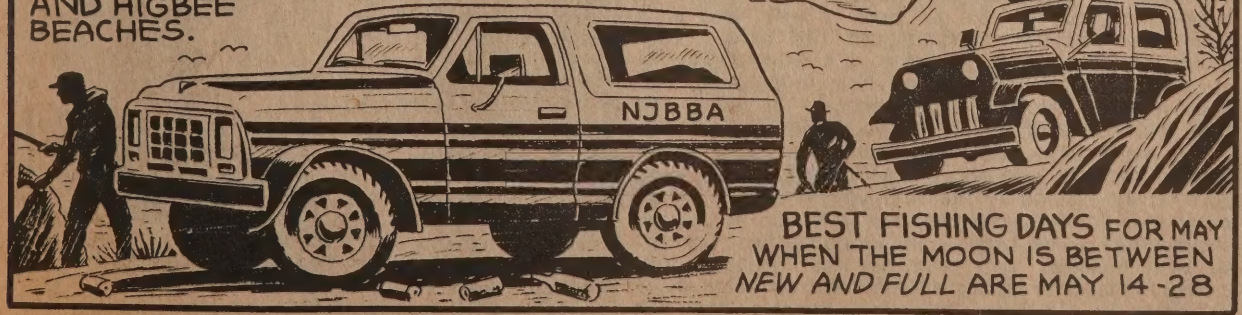


THE NEW JERSEY BEACH BUGGY ASS'N. WILL HOLD *A BEACH CLEANUP* MAY 24 AT BRIGANTINE BEACH AT 9 AM - RAIN OR SHINE. ALL INTERESTED CONSERVATIONISTS AND SPORTSMEN ARE INVITED TO HELP OUT. VEHICLES AND TRASH BAGS WILL BE SUPPLIED BY THE N.J.B.B.A. WHICH HAS ALREADY CLEANED UP ISLAND BEACH STATE PARK PLUS HOLGATE AND HIGBEE BEACHES.



BEST FISHING DAYS FOR MAY WHEN THE MOON IS BETWEEN *NEW AND FULL* ARE MAY 14-28

NATIONAL SCENE
with Al Ristori

SELLING A LICENSE

The question the saltwater fisherman always asks when the subject of a license comes up is, "What's in it for me?" Unfortunately, he hasn't been getting very many answers to that perfectly legitimate inquiry. Under the circumstances, it's not surprising that saltwater licenses have met with a generally negative reaction from the angling public—and have been perceived as being primarily a means of creating a larger and more comfortable bureaucracy.

Generally, when saltwater licenses are promoted, the fisherman is told that more research is desperately needed in order to properly manage the resources. I'm sure that all of us here can agree with that reasoning, though there is some question as to whether a license is the right way to raise this money. After all, it's not easy to convince the fisherman that he's any more responsible for research in fisheries than the farmer is for research in agriculture. The public almost invariably feels that monies for research should come from general funds, and the very mention of research is sure to create a negative reaction when the license issue comes up.

To add a little sugar coating to the saltwater license pill, we're often told that this increased funding will lead to more launching ramps, piers and artificial reefs. While that sounds a little better, it still doesn't have universal appeal. Only a small minority of the fishing public is likely to benefit from these projects unless they're carried out on a massive scale. Furthermore, anglers who have traveled quite a bit are perceptive enough to realize that some states have done an excellent job of providing these facilities without a saltwater license. The angler can point to the great number of launching ramps on Cape Cod, to the many piers along the North Carolina and Florida coasts, and the artificial reef programs pursued by states such as North Carolina. What it all boils down to is that the average angler feels he'd rather save his $5 than trust the state to do all the things it's failed to do in the past.

There always seems to be a great deal of wonderment as to why the saltwater fisherman is so reluctant to accept something that the freshwater angler has lived with for years. The freshwater license has been around for so long now that no one seems to give much though to what privileges are granted to the angler by that license.

Let's spend a few moments reviewing the benefits accorded to the freshwater angler. The greatest benefit provided to the freshwater sportsman is protection. That's right, protection! With few exceptions, he knows that when he goes to his favorite lake he won't find his hotspots blocked off by gill nets or hear that some trawlers have just cleaned out the area. When commercial fishing is permitted, it's usually only for rough fish—the removal of which is intended to help improve game fishing. This protection from commercial fishing is well worth the cost of the license.

In many states, the angler also buys with his license a great deal of influence in the policies of the state government relative to his fisheries. A council of his peers may set policy, rather than a bunch of possibly unconcerned bureaucrats—and the department concerned with fisheries may even be well insulated from politics. Indeed, in looking at what the freshwater angler is getting for his dollar, it's fair to conclude that he's generally getting a pretty good deal.

Finally we come to the question of public representation in the creation of policy. Once again, most saltwater license plans don't provide this very important feature. Especially in cases where the funds from the proposed license cannot be dedicated, anglers have a very legitimate interest in keeping track of where the money goes. A powerful council not only provides policy guidance, but also can serve as an effective political force capable of seeing to it that the funds collected are actually spent in the saltwater fisheries.

In looking over the so-called benefits presently being offered to saltwater fishermen as opposed to those which freshwater anglers get for their licenses, it's pretty obvious that there is little incentive for the old salts among us to fork over even a few dollars. Indeed, if New York were to announce that starting in this year all fresh waters would be open to unrestrained commercial fishing, virtually all conservation regulations would be eliminated and stocking abandoned altogether, you can imagine how many freshwater licenses would be sold, and what the reaction across the state would be. Therefore, I find it very difficult to sympathize with administrators who feel that the saltwater fisherman should just roll over and accept a license simply because the administrators have determined that it's in his own best interests.

Administrators must look at what they are giving the freshwater fisherman for his money, and then try to come up with something equally beneficial for the saltwater angler. At present, there is basically an attitude of neutrality between sport and commercial fishermen in most marine fisheries departments. That has generally resulted in a lack of regulation and completely open fisheries—the result of which has often been disastrous for both the resource and those dependent on it (from either a commercial or recreational viewpoint) for a living. However, in most states the vast majority of the license fees will come from recreational fishermen. Can the administrators continue to maintain their "holier than thou" attitudes toward those who will be picking up most of the bills?

In my opinion, the first step in obtaining a saltwater license should be a clear policy of favoring hook and line fishing in inshore areas. This is necessary as much from the psychological standpoint as from the biological. A fishery may be in good shape, but fishing will still not be good at all times. If a recreational fisherman is faced with gill nets everywhere he looks and a trawler working down the bay, he's likely to blame his bad luck on these factors—even if some biologist assures him that the species isn't being harmed. Perhaps from a strict, grandiose biological viewpoint that may be true—but that's not the way the citizen who's being asked to support the department sees it. Furthermore, he's right. The removal of great numbers of adult game fish by commercial fishermen in his immediate area may not affect the overall welfare of the species, but it most certainly affects the number of fish available to his relatively ineffective gear at that point in time. The argument that the saltwater fisherman should be content with the "experience" and a few small fish simply doesn't hold water. The "experience" is not always a pleasant one if you're chased off the beach by a gang of haul seiners, and the saltwater fisherman has long been accustomed to making occasional bonanza catches. As party boat captains can testify, that's what keeps the customers coming back. Of course, this will probably change in time, but there is little hope of instilling a freshwater ethic at the same time that netters are permitted unlimited catches.

With or without a license, administrators are going to have to face up to this problem before much longer. A quote from Bob Kemp, Director of Fisheries, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, sets it forth as succinctly as possible: "There are too many people fishing a depleted resource. There no longer are, or will be again in my opinion, enough trout and redfish to meet the demands of both the commercial finfish industry and the tourist and recreational fishing industry. The solution is

simple and logical. We should continue to allocate all the shrimp and the crabs and the oysters to the commercial fishing industry. These resources are valued to this state at more than $145 million annually. But we should then allocate the trout and the redfish to the tourist and recreation industry. It's valued at $300 million annually. And, ladies and gentlemen, there's no other solution!''

That, indeed, is exactly the case with inshore fisheries along the Atlantic Coast just as it is in Texas. And it's also the opening that marine fisheries departments can use to create a constituency for a saltwater license. By setting forth a program that will protect inshore fisheries for the recreational fisherman, there will be a real incentive to support a license. Stocking is probably out of the question in the near future, but the most important matter of protection is something that can be handled. While most of the species we deal with are migratory in nature, there is still no reason to simply assume that every fish we fail to harvest will be taken elsewhere. The good intentions of one state may well set a precedent to be followed by neighboring states. There is no reason to wait for a license in order to afford such protection. California protected the striped bass in 1936, an action which may have made it easier to get a license later on. If the marine fisheries administrators were to take significant actions now, the negative perceptions held by the public might be changed and a license more readily accepted.

In addition to a policy of favoring the hook and line fisherman in inshore waters, license plans should provide for dedicated funds and a council to set policy. In that way the angler will know that his monies are being expended in worthwhile projects intended for his benefit—and not to build up another bureaucracy. With conservation regulations being approved by a council of their peers, fishermen are much more likely to accept them.

In setting forth these general principles relative to an acceptable type of saltwater license, I haven't gotten into the specifics of the license. Just how much it should cost and who should pay it are matters for further discussion. Personally, I favor the idea of allowing party and charter boats, and boat rental stations, to purchase a license that will cover their customers. Perhaps the same privilege could be extended to motels and hotels in order to reduce the negative impact on tourism of such a license. However, once again, I suggest that these specifics be left to a council representative of the public which could sift through various proposals and come up with a plan that won't be associated with the bureaucracy.

I don't suggest that even the adoption of my suggestions will make the saltwater license proposal all that easy to swallow. This is one of the last areas in which the citizen can participate without having a license or being subject to a host of regulations. If we could cast aside concern for the resource, I could hardly blame anyone for outright opposition to licensing. However, the resource problems we face will not go away by simply wishing it were so. With fish prices escalating and more people seeking saltwater recreation the pressure is bound to increase—and we can't expect fish to reproduce like Al Capp's Schmoos in order to take care of our every desire no matter how hard we fish them. If the marine fisheries administrators will face up to the realities of what they must offer the saltwater angler in order to convince him to take this step, then I feel that a consensus can be developed in a relatively short time frame.

Despite the fact that I have to say that I'm opposed to licensing schemes I've seen recently, I would be happy to stick my neck out for the type of plan I've described that would bring real benefits to the angler. I don't like regulation any more than the next citizen and my inherent distrust of bureaucracy has been sharpened by three years on the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council fighting with the often incredible ineptitude of the National Marine Fisheries Service. Nevertheless, I'm convinced that the problems won't go away if we stick our heads in the sand. To the administrators I say, give the fisherman a fair plan with real benefits and a say in its operation, and you'll find the support you've been looking for!

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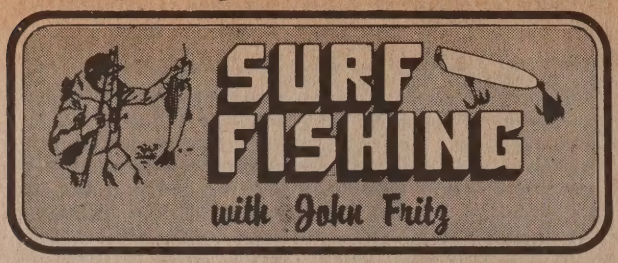

Catching Small Fish

Almost invariably when one listens to a fish story it will relate a tale of landing a huge fish, or of the monster that got away. Countless advertisements extol the virtues of a particular lure or piece of equipment in catching trophy sized fish, while most authors urge the angler to try certain areas of methods which will yield magnificent specimens, proving ample fuel for those after-season rap sessions. Naturally, it is rewarding to land a bragging sized fish, but in reality, the time and effort spent in such pursuits could provide more consistent action if more moderate sized fish were sought. One does not have to forego his quest for trophy fish, but by limiting his efforts to periods that offer the best percentages and spending the remainder of his time toying with the midgets, a much more fulfilling season can be had.

Too often fishermen are brainwashed into believing that they must return with huge fish or an impressive quantity or they will suffer a loss of face when asked about their catch. Sure, it's true that fishing reporters are not interested in the guy who quietly hooks several small blues on light tackle only to break off the majority. It makes for better reading to write that someone landed twenty bluefish at a local beach the previous day while failing to report they were skimmed across the top of the water on an eleven foot stick spooled with twenty pound test line with no thought of giving the fish a chance to demonstrate its fighting abilities. Think about which angler had a more enjoyable time and one will realize that it is regrettable that so many people are only impressed with results.

There are several arguments in favor of the pursuit of smaller fish. What may stimulate some, may be completely disregarded by others but one or more reasons should interest everyone.

While some people enjoy eating fish of any size or species, gourmets maintain that younger fish do not possess the strong taste of their older brethren. Marginal fish eaters who have been turned off to eating fish by dining on a teen-sized blue which has been feeding on bunker could be pleasantly surprised when offered the flesh of a fresh-caught tailor blue. As every market fisherman knows, the smaller fish command a higher price per pound than larger fish of the same species.

To take this point further, although I'm not recommending exchanging surf gear for a snapper pole, think of how many fishermen seek snappers. Is it because they provide such a good fight or because they are so tasty? If a person is troubled about eating fish poisoned with toxic substances, the younger fish have had less time to store these contaminants in the fatty tissue.

It is obvious to anyone who has given it any thought that in the normal course of nature there will be more small fish than adults; therefore, chances of success are greatly increased if the youngsters are sought. Occasionally, this fundamental principle is upset, such as in the case of striped bass in recent years; but overall the older a year class becomes the more fish are lost to harvesting, disease, predators, or whatever.

Another advantage in fishing for young fish is that they are easier to entice into striking a lure. Whether the reason is that there is more competition amongst small fish or they become wary with age is irrelevant, but novice anglers can score more readily when young fish are predominant. Beginning surfmen have a better chance when pitted against old pros. Expensive equipment is often not necessary as long as the basic essentials are carried and a willingness to work at the sport prevails, success can be achieved. Newcomers to the sport will maintain a continued level of high interest when there is some amount of action, for long periods of fishless attempts can quickly discourage neophyte surfmen.

This is especially true when introducing children to the joys of surf fishing. What better way is there to teach youngsters than by putting him into a school of breaking two pound bluefish. The proper application of drag, the pump and wind method of hauling in a fish, beaching a fish with the aid of a wave and much more can be taught under actual conditions where the impact of the lessons imparted will be retained more readily.

Even the old salts can learn from trying for the more prevalent younger fish. New lures or different methods can be tried out when it is known that fish are present and feeding. Techniques which are successful here can be applied at other times, confident in the knowledge that they worked before.

Anyone interested in tagging should seek out areas where small fish predominate. Larger fish, because they are more difficult to land, tend to go into shock by the time they are beached, unhooked, tagged and released. More time must be spent walking these fish in order to revive them. In many areas, it is impossible to stand in the water holding a fish until it has recovered sufficient strength to swim on its own. Small fish, on the other hand, can be quickly landed, tagged, and returned to the water without such special attention. Because the percentage of returns are low, the greater the number of fish tagged the greater the return. These returns are the most rewarding aspect of tagging; therefore, the more numerous the returns, the more enjoyable the sport.

Most anglers shun the pursuit of small fish because they feel there is no sport involved. An eighteen inch bass caught on an eleven foot stick equipped with a Crack 300 spooled with twenty pound test Ande will be hauled to the beach like an old shoe. Scale the tackle down to a size where the fish can give a decent account of itself and it will be a different ball game. Light, one-handed rods with ultra-light reels and six pound test line will put the "zing" in any game fish.

When using ultra-light tackle, the following lures can be used as a guide for they have been proven successful over the years. The three and four inch Rebels or RedFins in either the sinking, floating or broken-back models are popular, with the sinking Rebels a hot lure when fishing areas suited for their use. The three inch Rapala Countdowns, half-ounce chrome poppers, half-ounce Kastmaster or Hopkins tins, and similar weight Whiptails and bucktails are all appropriate in certain circumstances. When weather conditions force an angler to upgrade his gear, the above lures in slightly heavier weights can be used, with the addition of such popular lures as the Spin Atom, five inch Hellcat, Tri-Fin Ellworm or the J-5 tin.

Whole worms threaded on a lone hook can be cast or floated into locations where conditions permit such tactics. These worms can be fished as one would fish a lure unlike when bottom fishing with heavy rods when sinkers are a must. On the other hand, if fishing bottom is the only possibility, there is a way it can be accomplished with the use of light tackle. Tie a 1/0 baitsaver hook to a twelve inch leader, before attaching this rig to the line, slide a half ounce ball sinker of the type with the hole through the center. This makeshift fish finder can be used in most areas which do not have strong tidal currents.

In many ways the use of light tackle permits more versatility, but naturally there are exceptions. In heavy surf, with strong onshore winds, when long casts are required or when crowded conditions prevail, slender wands and flimsy threads will have to be put aside; but if the situation permits it, it is less tiring and more

enjoyable to work the back side of Democrat rather than the pounding surf of the outside. Many pleasant hours can be spent prowling the quiet shore lines of Long Island with a few favorite lures stuffed in a shirt pocket unencumbered by the heavy equipment necessary when fishing the open surf. Although most of Long Island's waterfront can be fished with light tackle given ideal conditions, certain beaches are conducive to this type fishing. Happily these same beaches attract substantial quantities of school-sized fish. The inside waterways of the South Shore inlets and the creeks and channel edges of the back bays are prime areas for seeking school fish but the shores of Long Island Sound are unsurpassed for this activity. Devoid of heavy surf, except during gusting northerly winds, this waterfront is ideal. Out east, the north side of the South Fork, in conjunction with certain areas of Shelter Island are, for the most part, excellent locations to employ these methods. It would be wise to avoid fishing the inlets proper during periods when the current is strongest unless heavier tackle is used. Possibly a nine foot medium action rod with a reel similar to the Penn #710 equipped with ten pound test line will allow a patient angler to subdue most fish in the swift waters encountered in inlets such as Fire Island or Jones. Care should be taken to choose a location where pursuit is possible for a good-sized fish in fast water will force an angler to follow or else be broken off.

Whereas the light tackle fisherman seeking smaller fish is somewhat limited on the South Shore, the opposite coast of Long Island is limitless for anglers using these techniques. Except for a few popular locations when hot fishing has been reported in the media, solitary anglers working a given stretch of beach can play his fish without hindrance. Bass, blues, and weaks and in the early part of the season mackerel, are all part of the North Shore scene.

Anglers seeking school bass would do well to ply the waters of the western Sound, for the Hudson River stock has spawned young fish, unlike their Chesapeake brethren. In the early spring, small bass advocates working areas such as Little Neck Bay, Centre Island or Crabmeadow using slowly retrieved lures can take bass either day or night. Patient bottom fishermen using medium tackle and terminal gear consisting of a pompano rig adored with whole sandworms will also take their share of schoolies. Also at this time, mackerel schools will frequently forage within reach of lucky surfmen providing hot action on a wide variety of speedily retrieved lures. The Brookhaven Beaches, Smithtown Bay areas and Bayville have witnessed this fast-paced action in prior seasons. During the summer months, bass fishing is relegated to the nighttime surf with weakfish providing alternate action. Small blues are predominantly early morning or late afternoon arrivals, with most action starting immediately after sunup and the evening fishing petering out with the ascent of darkness. During the late fall, school bass once again predominate with tins similar to the J-5, the one-and-a-quarter ounce Hopkins.

One item which should not be discounted when seeking these smaller fish is the teaser. Whether the teaser is a streamer fly or the recently introduced four inch RedGill, this addition can make a startling difference in results. These proven fish catchers, for those of you unfamiliar with their application, are tied off an eight inch leader attached to a barrel swivel. Secured to the same eye of the swivel is an eighteen inch leader, the opposite end of which is tied to the plug. There are those surf fishermen who prefer small fish because they are more plentiful, can be readily sought out using light tackle, and are more versatile on the table.

A surfman made a statement to me once that "he didn't bother with the small crap, he would wait for the time when the larger fish arrived." It is my feeling that as long as there are game fish to be caught in the surf, I want to be part of the scene, regardless of whether they are monsters or hard fighting youngsters. To me, it is all part of the wonderful sport of surf fishing.

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Readers' Comments Welcomed On *The Case For A Saltwater License*

Readers' are invited to send in their written comments on the series *The Case For A Saltwater Fishing License.* After *reading* the series, write down your views and ask any questions that you may have, keeping your comments as brief and concise as possible. Representative letters will be published and answered in the coming weeks until the issue has been fully aired. Voting on the proposal will be via a post-card ballot that will be inserted in an issue of *The Long Island Fisherman.* Address all comments to:

The Long Island Fisherman
Post Office Box 1994
Sag Harbor, New York 11963
***Att:* Saltwater License Dept.**

FISH TALK
with William A. Muller

Catching up with the Mail

WE PROMISED! We do our best to reply to all letters. Sometimes a letter gets lost, but rarely. In recent months, however, the mail has been pouring in so heavily that it has gone beyond our ability to keep up. Therefore, in this week's column we'll attempt to catch up. Sorry, but many of your letters are summarized, paraphrased, or shortened and I hope that the real context of your letters has not been altered.

LINDA PANCIARELLO of Patchogue had an inquiry about "live-lining" for weakfish. She asks: "What is live-lining?" I know that many of our readers are already very familiar with live-lining techniques but for others, especially beginners, the how-to information may be helpful. Even the experts out there may pick up a new wrinkle or two. I know that I have been using this technique for many years, yet every time I go out fishing with a live-lining specialist with whom I haven't fished, I learn more than one new wrinkle. Now, I'm first and foremost a surf fisherman, so I won't attempt to present myself as a live-lining expert; yet I will pass along some of the information that real experts like Ronnie Lepper, Rich Hawkins, and others have shared with me. Linda, live-lining is a type of baitfishing in which a live baitfish is used to attract large predators such as bass, blues, and weakfish. Thus is explained the "live" part of live-lining. But what about the "lining?" Since the live baitfish is controlled by a hook and this hook is attached to your line, and because the line is stripped out and picked-up according to the movements of the baitfish, the term "live-lining" or swimming a living baitfish at the end of your line. The most common baits used are bunker, eels, and mackerel, although snappers, blackfish, and other small fish such as porgies are also used. The baits are collected in several ways. Bunker will not take either a baited hook or a lure and thus they must be snagged with large weighted treble hooks that are cast into the middle of a school and retrieved with jerks of the rod. Mackerel can be taken with lures; blackfish, eels, porgies and the rest can also be taken on hook and line. However, some fishermen purchase their baits from tackle stores and others use nets. The small fish are kept alive in bait wells on board the boat. Some of these have pumps that circulate the water, or air bubblers that aerate the water. A small bait is taken from the water tank and hooked in one of several ways. Some fishermen like to impale a 3/0, 4/0 or 5/0 treble hook in the back just behind the head and in front of the dorsal fin. Others prefer to put the trebles in the mouth finding that the fish bleed less and the hook stays put a little better than in the softer back. The bait is then put overboard and it swims away. Line is stripped off. Usually the fishermen will put an outside limit on the amount of line that will be stripped off (perhaps up to one hundred feet). Typically the bait will swim back and forth and around the boat until a predator comes along. At that point, it will become agitated. The predator will take it and swim away, but the fisherman must allow the fish to take the bait without thumb, drag, or line pressure. The fisherman counts—up to perhaps thirty for big bass, fifteen to twenty for blues, and a minute or more for weaks. Bass have the big mouths and can swallow large baits easily. Although blues and weaks have about the same size mouth, the blue has teeth and can dispatch the bait easily. The weakfish has to laboriously turn and swallow the bait; so give the weakfish time. Under some conditions, such as strong tides and deep water, the predators may be feeding deep and they will not come to the surface for a baitfish. The experts may add a drail about eighteen to twenty-four inches in front of the leadered hook. For blues, a wire bridle is often used to add a little more reliability to the catch, since blues may chop off one end and leave the other. The wire also prevents the blues from biting through your line. Well, Linda, that in capsule is live-lining.

FRANK CAROLA of Valley Stream referred to an earlier article about the ability of fish to smell. "Does a fish actually smell the chum and bait or do they just stumble on the food? This question bugs me, because I wonder if its worth all the chum?" Yes, indeed Frank, it is worth all the chum. True, for some of the predators, an artificial will suffice since they react to motion and sound as well as to smell. However, for many of the bottom species, smell is a chief sense for locating baits. Large predators actually use sound as a long-range sense. They can pick up sounds from great distance. When they are close they will use sight and smell. For the predator, sight is usually the last sense to come into play—especially in our murky northern waters. Of course, there are times when even the predators must be coaxed with live bait and chum. Chumming for bass, blues, and weaks are standard techniques in the repertoire of local fishermen. However, for many bottom species, such as flounder, there is no choice of technique. Flounder will not travel any great distance to respond to chum: you must be in the general area. However, a chum pot will draw the fish to you. They "smell" by picking up traces of the chemicals in the juices of the chum and moving against the tide towards the source of the chum. Corn, as you mentioned in your letter, is an effective chum for flounders, but corn serves as an attractor when the flounders are already very close. They respond to the yellow color. Many fishermen paint their sinkers yellow for this reason, too. There are times when the chum isn't necessary, but generally, it will improve your catch.

ROBERT J. LUTHMANN of Staten Island asks: "What have you got against Staten Island? In the L.I.F., it's Long Island this and Long Island that...we exist! We subscribe! We fish! We conserve! We also enjoy giving you the business now and then all in good fun." Bob, we absolutely have nothing against Staten Island. We feature fishing reports from Staten Island and we run feature articles about Staten Island fishing. As a matter of fact, in the last few years we have made a great effort to secure articles about Staten Island fishing. We have succeeded, too, and this year there will be quite a few in our Surf Fishing column; so keep an eye out for them. Incidentally, thanks for giving us the business now and then in good fun—it keeps us hopping!

D. FINE of Commack has noticed that there seems to be a relationship between wind and current patterns and the abundance of Lion's Mane jellyfish in our waters. He wants to know whether there is a relationship between this phenomena and that wherein our sport fish arrive and leave our waters. He also asks if the presence of the jellyfish in great numbers inhibits good fishing. Well, there is and there isn't a relationship between wind and currents and the sport fish of our desires. Finfish tend to be able to swim against most currents and waves. They follow the food during the course of the season. However, some of the food that they seek or the food that their food seeks can be strongly affected by the currents and the winds. Thus, although fish will tend to be able to swim rather independently of wind and current effects, many times they find themselves in the same places as the smaller, more helpless critters simply because they need them for food. Generally speaking, the presence of Lion's Mane jellyfish will not severely inhibit the fishing; but if extremely large numbers are in an area, it is possible that good fishing can be knocked down a peg or two, not so much because the bass, blues, weaks, porgies, blacks, etc., are in danger from them, but because the tentacles may get

onto your line and baits thus rendering them unappealing. Large numbers of the jellies may also affect the abundance of smaller animals in the area and the lack of bait may cause the larger species to move elsewhere.

ANDREW LEMME wrote a letter that has many interesting facets. First, he states that he has trained a killer whale. This, I would like to know more about. How about giving us a brief summary, Andy. Andy also is critical of L.I.F. practices. "The stupidity of some articles is a waste of time and the management of the L.I.F. is totally out of touch with my fishing reality." Since I'm an editor and I help review and schedule articles, that must mean me. So again, how about a few more details. Maybe the information that you supply will help me to be a better editor? Then Andy asks: "Do fish swim?" I don't know why, but that strikes me as a loaded question. According to Webster's New World Dictionary to swim is to "move through the water by movements of the arms, legs, **fins**, **tail**, etc." Thus, we must answer that a fish does swim. Of course, it doesn't swim the way a person does, but then if you look at the various forms of life that swim you will discover there are many approaches to the same problem. Humans use arms and legs in many styles and applications. A dog paddles beneath its body, a frog pushes off with its hind legs, a snake pushes with its tail. Then there are lizards with flat tails that paddle and insects that stroke with their legs. Yes, I would say that fish swim. In an ideal sense, fish are one of Nature's purist swimmers because they are moving in the element for which they were designed (evolved). Thus, there is only minimum drag on their bodies and they are very efficient.

RICHARD C. HENDERSON of J-Bay Boat Rental, Inc., Jamaica Bay wrote in about the fish-kill that occurred last summer in Jamaica Bay. Mr. Henderson states that he has been living on the bay for thirty years, which would certainly qualify him as an expert on that body of water. Needless to say, you can imagine the shock when they discovered that the killies, eels, and shedder crabs in their live bait wells began to die, or their shock that night when they noted crabs crawling out of the water and dead fish abounding. Rich agrees with us that the water quality in Jamaica Bay has been on the upswing and would not like to see repeated incidences like the one last summer which could endanger the overall recovery of the Jamaica Bay. See Issue #8, 1980 for prior discussions.

TIMOTHY J. O'LEARY of New Haven, Connecticut. "I was quite intrigued with your column in the January 17 issue of L.I.F. on fish odors. I have come across the watermelon odor on several occasions, but have been unable to catch fish at the same time." Tim goes on to agree that the exact way in which fish odors are perceived among different humans probably does differ. He pointed out an article from a Texas book that associates the watermelon smell with spotted sea trout and channel bass or redfish. He goes on to suggest that either Doc Grell or I should investigate this further. Tim, it would be interesting to research this; however, a meaningful research effort would require substantial electronic equipment and a large expense of time, money, and personnel. Neither Grell nor I have the luxury of those items. Then, too, since the quality of any odor is so subjective, a casual study would prove fruitless. I've never smelled spotted sea trout or channel bass, but I have smelled schools of northern ·aks and I can tell you that their odor is nowhere nea· as pleasant as watermelon. They smell organic, fishy, and rich—but to me that smell is very unique. How others smell it is something I cannot attest to.

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"Old Martin..."

Because of this column, my mail load is often quite heavy (I'm not complaining—not one bit). Most letters refer to events that happened in the long ago, which is not surprising. But until the other day, I thought I'd received just about every type of comment one would expect when referring to those long-gone times. But Harold Mittendorf of Brooklyn went me one better.

It seems, Mr. Mittendorf writes, that he recalls his grandfather telling stories of the many "rough and ready" fishermen who used to frequent party boats at the turn of the century.

There were times, Harold relates, when, his grandfather said, contingents of police—and ambulances—were on hand at the Sheepshead Bay docks to meet the party boats as they returned from their daily offshore trips. These were needed, Harold says, to control unruly fishermen and to cart off the injured. Mr. Mittendorf concluded his letter by asking if I knew anything about such incidents and if I witnessed similar events in my youth.

Well, the turn of the century was much before my time; therefore, I can't comment on Harold's letter from firsthand experience. If memory holds true, I recall hearing such stories, but how accurate these were, I don't know. Possibly there is a bit of truth to them; just how much I have no way of knowing.

Fortunately, when I was growing up on party boats, such events were never witnessed by me. During the hundreds and hundreds of party boat trips I've made over the years, I can recall but six cases of out and out drunkenness, and absolutely no knock-'em-down-and-drag-'em-out fights. In fact, with but few exceptions, every fisherman I knew seemed always well-behaved; the only thing of importance to these old-timers was the catching of as many fish as possible.

Because of Mr. Mittendorf's letter, I figured this subject would make good reading for this month's Old-Timers' Corner. With that in mind, I've selected an old-timer whom I knew well in my young days, and by so doing show the type and caliber of many fishermen who frequented the party boats when I was a youngster.

This is not overly difficult to do, for I seem blessed with a retentive memory. It fails only when I force it to concentrate on something other than fishing—like grocery shopping, for instance. It then limps along and often falls by the wayside, causing me to suffer the slings and arrows of snide remarks relating to my mental equipment.

But as I say, it isn't difficult to recall those many old time party boat fishermen of my boyhood. For instance, there was Matt Smith whom I regarded more as a father than a brother fisherman; there was Big Red who showed me how to catch my first codfish; and there was Big Olaf, the master fisherman of all master fishermen, who unselfishly taught me pool-winning secrets which might possibly have taken half a lifetime to discover on my own; plus many, many more who were so willing to take a youngster in hand and instill in him their hard-gained knowledge.

But there was this one outstanding old-timer whom I idolized and who was affectionately known by one and all at the time as Old Martin—or just plain Martin.

Perhaps when gauged upon the yardstick of full buckets, Martin was not a great fisherman as were so many others of the day, but this didn't lessen my love or him. In my young impressionable eyes, Martin could do no wrong. What his last name was, I never knew. But it matters not. What does matter is that because of my high regard, I remember him vividly, though he left this mortal coil nearly a half century ago.

To describe Martin's external appearance and his gentleness is not difficult, but I would be sore put to describe the goodness that lay in his heart. He had never a harsh word for anyone, nor can I recall a foul epithet ever leaving his lips. I'm sure evil thoughts were as foreign to Martin as to the most revered saint. Old Martin was quite a man.

Newspaper cartoonist Thomas Nast in his searching for a St. Nick model could have used Old Martin with but little change in overall appearance.

Perhaps Martin had a little less in the belly and a little more in height, but he was nevertheless as quick and agile as his counterpart, sporting an almost identical rounded beard and full mustaches. Though both these were not nearly so white as was St. Nick's, Martin's exposed face radiated a ruddy complexion, complete with bulbous cheeks and humorous, twinkling blue eyes.

This was my old friend as I remember him.

A true man of the sea, Martin was a rugged Norwegian, born aboard his father's trawler on the Dogger Banks in the North Sea one roaring winter day in 1844. Oh, yes, Martin was already an old man when I knew him—eighty-six, in fact. But he was ever youthful, giving the lie to his age as none other I have known. And always cheerful—no end cheerful.

Martin's one great passion was the sea.

"Isn't it grand, Marty boy?" he would often ask as we sat together on the bow of the old Rose R II, perhaps while making our way to the Cholera or 17 Fathom Bank. "It's alive, Marty. It speaks to me all the time. Can't you hear it?"

Of course, in those young and tender years I heard nothing from the sea but its roar should it be what Martin liked to call "a wild winter day," and absolutely nothing if it was a windless June morning; but I would nod and agree that, indeed, the sea was beautiful. (It wasn't until many years later that I realized just what Martin meant—that the sea does "speak" to those who listen.)

Martin must have had a hard life in his young days. I recall him telling me his father was lost at sea with all hands in 1859 when he (Martin) was fifteen. That trawler on which Martin was born never survived a raging snowstorm—that was all he knew about it. His mother died within six months (Martin always said of a broken heart), and he went to live with an uncle. Two years later, Martin and his uncle (could stand it no longer" and they emigrated to America.

This was in 1861. Martin remembered the Civil War well, for when he was nineteen, he joined the Navy. Here he found a home for thirty years, traveling to the remotest corners of the earth.

And it was with these adventures that Martin held me spellbound. I knew more about Hawaii, Japan, China, Australia, India, Africa, and such far off exotic places than any school geography book ever taught me. And I got it straight from the "horse's mouth" instead of from some dried tome put together by an author who had never been out of the States.

For a young fellow, Martin was a great companion. He taught me much, not so much about fishing perhaps, but much on how one should conduct one's-self during life. "Always be kind, Marty boy," was his stock reply whenever I questioned him upon why he so often went out of his way to help others. "Be kind. For if you do this now as a boy, you are bound to grow into a good man—besides," he would always add, "the world has need for good men. It has more than its share of no-goods."

This, of course, was the philosophy of the times, a philosophy shared by many old-timers of my generation. No doubt, you who read this can recall much of the same being the attitude of your fathers and grandfathers.

Martin, because of his nature, was quite talkative, but there were times when, as we fished together, he would become overly quiet and gaze intently upon the distant horizon. He never said what caused this turnabout, but unbeknownst to him, I knew. And it was easy enough to understand.

Because Martin had been associated with the sea all his life—being born on it and all that—it was not surprising that he would wish to pass away at sea as had his father. This was his hope, although as I say, he never voiced it in my presence, thinking, I suppose, that it was too morbid a subject for a boy of tender years. But this was the rumor I'd heard from those who knew him longer than I. Yes, Martin was a strange man in many respects, and I would be the first to admit it.

The only time I didn't see Martin aboard the Rose R II was during winter lay-up periods. Then he would re-enter the Old Sailors Home, which I believe was in Staten Island, overlooking the Bay. Here Martin hibernated until April, when once again he would appear on the scene, fit as a fiddle.

I don't believe Martin had much of a domestic life. I knew he had been a widower for a good many years, and I recall a married daughter, Innes, who I'd heard tried desperately to have him spend his winters with her—but with little success. Martin absolutely refused. He much preferred, he said (not unkindly, I'm sure), the companionship of his old sea-faring cronies.

It was Martin who taught me how to fillet such fish as bergalls, sea bass, porgies, etc., and how to skin blackfish. And after he taught me that, it then became my job in winter—when the below decks pot-belly stove was giving out its most welcome warmth—to fillet four or five of the largest bergalls and take them below, whereupon Martin fried them with dollops of butter and sandwiched them between thick slices of pumpernickel bread. Um-m-m-m. And to sort of anchor them securely, Martin made scalding cups of coffee. It was pure ambrosia.

"Good, eh, Marty?" he would ask, knowing full well my reply was sure to be: "Fit for a king, Martin, fit for a king." To which he was certain to reply: "Too good for most kings I ever heard of."

As mentioned before, Martin was never an outstanding fisherman. Never truly interested in fishing's fine points, he became a good fisherman solely through years of association with the game. Handline fishing was good enough for him. None of those high-falutin' rods and reels for him, he said. To Martin, fishing was just something to help spend the time while out on his beloved sea.

To demonstate this I recall one time when we were drifting around the old Ambrose Lightship, doing a bit of ling fishing on a fine spring day. Both of us were using handlines, both fishing alongside each other as we often did. A split second after Martin had gotten a bite and began to haul in his fish, I also got a hit, struck back, and began to bring in my line, hand over hand. I knew the fish I'd hooked was a good one. Certainly it was no ling. I hoped it was a cod, for if I could land it, I knew that fish would win the pool for me.

But it was no cod. It was a hake of about twelve pounds. In its efforts to escape, it had tangled itself around Martin's line—or so I thought—and we had hauled it in together. Now comes the part that truly reveals Martin's character.

I discovered that fish wasn't mine, although Martin was to insist that it was. I watched him untangle the momentous snarl after first removing the hake and tying a knot in the tarred snell of the fish-catching hook—which was the usual procedure for later ease of identification.

I knew, however, that that knotted hook hadn't caught the fish simply because I was using smaller hooks than Old Martin. I wasn't that much of a novice that I didn't recognize my own terminal tackle. Martin let loose of his hook at the precise instant he thought I wouldn't notice, quickly grabbed one of mine and tied a knot in its snell. He wanted me to win that pool.

Which I did.

I later insisted he share the winning with me, but he would have none of it. "You caught it fair and square, Marty boy. Lucky for you I didn't knock it off the hook, eh?" Martin, Martin—you were quite a man.

Well, Old Martin and I fished together for several years and they were joyous days for me. But like everything else, all good things must eventually come to an end.

One morning I showed up for some fishing, but there was no Martin. I inquired of one of the regulars if he'd seen Martin. "Didn't you hear, lad? Martin's gone. 'Most a week now."

I was told Martin had gone below to make that coffee without which he couldn't exist, and when he was missed on deck, someone had gone to check and found him lying on the life preserver lockers, long past all mortal help.

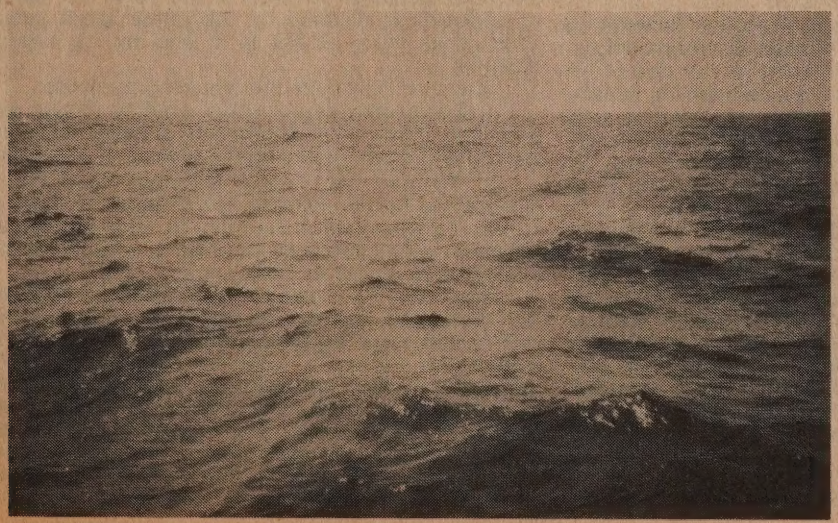
The first thing I asked was: "Where did it happen?"—hoping against hope that it wasn't in the bay. The answer—are you ready for this?—out on the Cholera Bank.

I felt saddened by the loss of Old Martin, of course, but in a way, I was glad, for I'm sure Martin's prayers had been answered.

Surely, you must admit Martin had gotten his wish.

So ends the story of Old Martin. I wanted to tell it because he personifies those many old-timers who fished aboard party boats in my youth. Truthfully, I saw no rowdyism as proclaimed in Mr. Mittendorf's letter. Which, I guess, is something to be thankful for.

If you wish to comment on this story (perhaps you knew Old Martin, and if so, praise be), drop me a line at 39 King Street, Hampton Bays, New York 11946, and we'll go over it together.



Isn't it grand, Marty Boy?"

An Overview of

Long Island Fishing Piers

Courtesy of the Pier Access Committee of the New York Sportfishing Council

Part One—*INTRODUCTION*

by Dr. Martin D. Hyman

Fishing piers are valuable resources to the sport fishing community, and to the nation as a whole. For many youngsters, senior citizens and others with limited funds, pier fishing may be the only means of participation in the wonderful sport of fishing. Often overlooked is the importance of pier fishing to those whose physical handicaps prevent surfcasting or fishing from boats.

Fishing piers bring commercial benefits to those whose livelihoods depend upon sport fishing. Youngsters and others often take up fishing because of the availability of a pier. Many of these individuals then go on to patronize marinas, party boats and charter boats as they seek to enlarge their fishing horizons. Thus, fishing piers may truly be a gateway to the world of sport fishing. And, individuals drawn into fishing by the existence of a nearby pier are transformed into customers for the bait and tackle industry.

In a time of scarce and expensive fuel, fishing piers provide an energy-efficient way to go fishing. This is all the more true if the pier is served by public transportation. If we are not skunked, pier fishing adds a healthful food to our diets. When we do well it can even reduce financial pressures arising from the high cost of food.

Fishing piers provide certain intangible benefits as well. Pier fishing tends to be relaxed and non-competitive, just the change of pace many of us need. An atmosphere of camaraderie and cooperation is usually found on piers, as fishermen assist one another with offers of bait and advice. Fishing piers may contribute to family cohesion by offering the opportunity for children, parents and grandparents to join in a pleasurable pursuit.

Unfortunately, in contrast with the situation elsewhere along our nation's coastlines, fishing piers on and near Long Island are lacking in both quantity and quality. Indicative of the lack of attention to pier fishing in this area on the part of various public authorities is the fact that almost none of our fishing piers were originally built expressly for fishing. In addition to being relatively few in number, fishing piers in our area, in comparison with those elsewhere, are quite short. Only one pier, that in Coney Island, is located on ocean waters. And currently there are no efforts under way to construct additional fishing piers.

Moreover, access to existing piers is not assured. Some have suffered deterioration as the result of time and weather, and funds are not always available for repair. Access to one public fishing pier to be discussed in these articles, that at Point Lookout, is restricted to residents of the Town of Hempstead. Use of the pier at Rye Playland for fishing beyond the 1980 season depends upon decisions to be made about the future of the Playland amusement complex as a whole. Access to certain taxpayer-supported fishing piers, such as those at Captree, is virtually denied to certain taxpayer-supported fishing piers, such as those at Captree, is virtually denied to taxpayers who do not own cars. Similarly, fishermen without cars can reach the piers at Jones Beach and Robert Moses State Parks only during the summer months.

These articles will provide a guide to the major fishing piers on Long Island waters. For purposes of brevity the discussion, with one exception, will be limited to public piers devoted primarily to fishing where there are no residence requirements for the pier's use. Thus we have not included bulkhead area, piers used mainly for docking, or town docks, the use of which, we assume, is limited to town residents. One pier, that at Point Lookout, is discussed even though its use is restricted to residents of the Town of Hempstead. Its inclusion is dictated by the rather large population which does enjoy access to it and by its outstanding qualities.

These articles have the following purposes:

1. To enhance enjoyment of existing fishing piers by providing information concerning fishing opportunities, tactics, and access with respect to each of these piers.

2. To alert the fishing fraternity to some of the present and future obstacles to utilization of these piers.

3. To stimulate fishermen to take individual and collection action that will result in the maintenance and expansion of access to these piers.

The New York Sportfishing Council, dedicated to the protection and enhancement of opportunities for sport fishing, has organized a Pier Access Committee to extend the Council's work into the domain of pier fishing. These articles constitute part of the Pier Access Committee's program of activities designed to maintain and improve facilities for pier fishing. We are interested in the participation and support of all fishermen who share this goal. **Dr. Martin D. Hyman, Chairman, Pier Access Committee, New York Sportfishing Council.**

PIER FISHING IN BROOKLYN

by David R. Williams

CONEY ISLAND PIER

Although it is thought by some to be a lost art, pier fishing is alive and doing very well. I don't know how many pier fishing purists are still around today, but I'll bet the number is nowhere near what it was years ago. There are many reasons for this decline. The main one is probably the increase in the number of private owned small boats. Why sit on a pier and wait for the fish to find you when you can jump into your own 21' center console Boston Whaler and go find them?

This kind of thinking was fine when gas was forty cents a gallon and a dollar was worth at least seventy-five cents....but the story has changed dramatically since 1973 and the Arab oil boycott. Now with gas almost $1.50 a gallon and the dollar only worth about thirty-five cents, you need a second job just to fill the tank of the family buggy to get to the dock.

I know everyone is well aware of the rising price of gas and the shrinking dollar. My point is that many fishermen who enjoyed the luxury of a boat for many years are going to find themselves high and dry in the coming seasons.

Some fishermen may find that surf fishing is little harder than they remember it from younger days, and some might try rock hopping the old jetties they used to fish years ago only to find that you can break your fool neck jumping from one wet rock to the next in the dark.

There is, however, one type of fishing that is both relaxing and safe, can be enjoyed by both young and old, and with a minimum of expense. It is pier fishing. That now brings us to the two piers I would like to discuss.

The first pier is the Coney Island pier and as the name implies is located in the Coney Island section of Brooklyn. The pier is approximately 1000 feet long, about sixty feet wide and is T-shaped at the very end.

It may be fished year-round for whiting and herring in the winter, and in the summer months for a wide range of species including flounder, fluke, porgies, blues, weakfish, and striped bass. Bait fishing is the method most used here with medium to heavy tackle. I would advise against the use of any light tackle except for snapper fishing. I am always amazed to see people trying to cast a chunk of bunker and a two ounce sinker with a one-handed spinning outfit and six pound test line. If you are going to take the time and trouble to fish this pier, make sure you have the right equipment for it. It is very disappointing and downright frustrating to get a good fish on only to lose it trying to lift it the twenty or thirty feet from the water to the pier. My own tackle preference here is a medium action, nine foot rod with a Penn 704 reel loaded with fifteen pound test line. I also prefer two piece rods because it is easy to travel with it on public transportation, and if you plan to fish this pier during the summer months, that is the best way to travel. Trying to park a car here at that time of year can best be described as a nightmare.

Bait can prove to be a problem here because I know of no tackle shop in close proximity to the pier; so you will have to bring your bait and tackle with you.

69th STREET PIER

The next pier is in the Bay Ridge section of the borough and is located at Bay Ridge Avenue and Shore Road. The pier is known locally as the 69th Street pier and until the opening of the Verrazano Narrows Bridge, served as the Brooklyn port for the Staten Island to Brooklyn ferry. The waters around the pier harbor a large number of school size bass from early spring well into the fall, which can provide some fast action on bait or small top-water swimming plugs. Blues and weakfish have also made a strong showing here in recent years and many bottom species are also available.

The 69th Street Pier in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn.

The pier has undergone an extensive face lifting in recent years and is ideally suited for fishing both day and night. It has a low chain link fence on all sides making it the ideal place to take your little would-be fisherperson without having to worry about them every minute. It is well lit for those wishing to fish here after the sun goes down.

Bait and tackle are available here during the summer months at a small tackle shop a few short blocks away. The shop is small but carries a good line of both fresh and frozen bait, and will have all the tackle you will need.

Crabbing is also very popular at both of these piers and is a very relaxing way to pass the time and provide yourself with some fine tasting seafood at the same time. Another benefit of fishing these locations is that both piers are convenient to public transportation. For directions you should call the Transit Authority's information center at (212) 330-1234.

So if this summer turns out like last summer and you don't feel like sitting on a long gas line trying to get gas to go fishing, hop a bus or train and try one of these spots. I think you will be both surprised and pleased to find such fine fishing so close at hand in the city.

CANARSIE PIER

by Paul Czajkowski

Location: Foot of Rockaway Parkway, Brooklyn. N.Y. Part of Gateway National Seashore.

Transportation: By car, take Shore Parkway to Exit 13, Rockaway Parkway. By subway, take LL Line to last stop—Rockaway Parkway. Transit Authority claims no bus runs to Canarsie Pier, but official of Gateway claims there is a bus at subway that runs down Parkway.

General Information: No fees or permits required. Parking lot accommodates approx. 300 cars. Toilets are available and there is a snack bar and frankfurter stand in season. According to a newspaper report, fishing clinics and special programs tend to crowd the facility on summer weekends.

Bait and Tackle: Unavailable at Pier. Cross Bay Boulevard or Sheepshead Bay are closest known sources.

Species:

Flounder—spring and fall.
Fluke—summer.
Porgy—summer
Weakfish—spring to early summer
Snapper—summer
Eels—spring to fall
Crabs—summer
Bluefish—occasional during summer, but seldom a sustained run. Ditto striped bass.
Whiting—winter

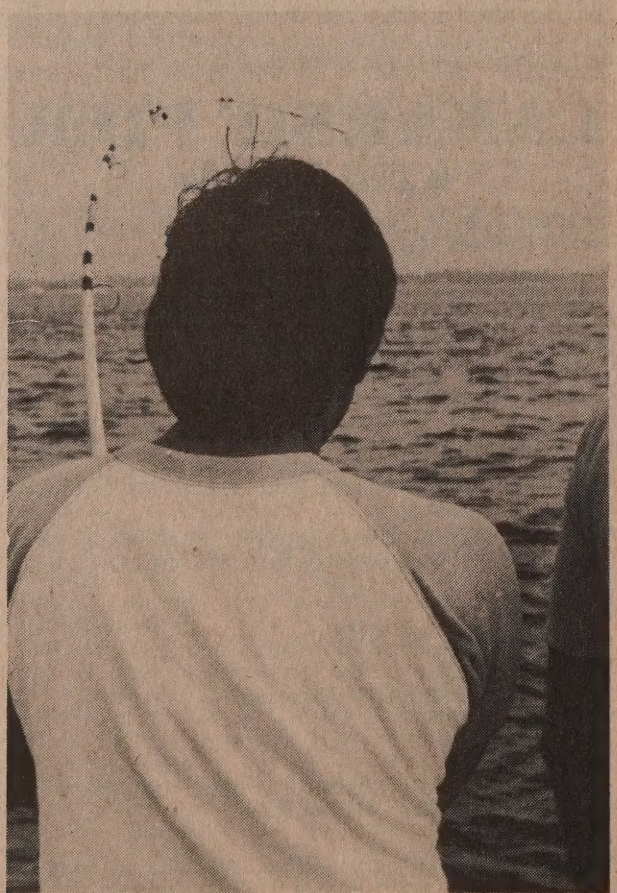
Bottom: Sand and mud mixture. Pier sits on Jamaica Bay, so a strong wind from a southerly quarter can be uncomfortable early and late in the season.

Stripers Love Steak— MACKEREL STEAK!

by Capt. Zac Grossman

When fishing for mackerel, I view each one coming over the gunnel as a bunch of steaks fit for a king. That king is the striped bass—the most prized game fish in our area. When June comes around, those packages of macks in the freezer begin to emerge a few at a time, ready to be steaked and cast among the rocks. The "chunking" season extends through July.

"Chunking" for stripers is one of my favorite methods because it's quiet, peaceful fishing (except when a fish is on); it's effective, and it's easy on a guy with a group of "non-experts" aboard. It's peaceful because the method works best when yours is the only boat working the "hotspot"; you'll see why later. For many years, the fish that responded to this method only seemed to do so during the hours of darkness. Fortunately, the fish have reversed themselves and for the past few years have preferred the few hours following sunrise when the sky and water are so beautiful and the air is filled with the smell of morning and the excitement of a new day. The action has been hottest between 6AM and 8AM. If you think this means you can sleep late and still get those "teen-size" and up bass, you are wrong.



Bass running hard against Lou Sabatello's drag.

To be the only boat working a spot you'll have to be the first one there and this means navigating in darkness. Until you've tried this, you can have no real appreciation for what it's like. You had better make a few practice runs during the day to your spots and log all pertinent data needed to duplicate the feat at night. You must run the boat at the same speed (based on RPMs) as you would at night. You must note your compass readings and try to make any long runs a combination of short legs, each ending at a buoy. At night they make checkpoints along the way. Time your run accurately and pay attention to what your depth sounder is telling you (a recorder is best). All this information will put you right on the spot long before sunup and hopefully before other boats.

Once you're at the spot, positioning is the next thing to consider. You'll be fishing chunks of bait right on the bottom between boulders and mussel beds and other riprap. The last thing you need is for the boat to move around and drag your baits along the bottom causing the hooks to either foul or cover the bait with collected seaweed. This is why double anchoring is a must, even in calm weather (the changing tide can swing you completely around). My lines are set up to make the job easy: the bow anchor line is 150 feet long and the stern line seventy-five feet long. I place the boat seventy-five feet forward of the spot where I want it to be. I then place the engines in reverse and lower the bow anchor. I continue backing until the bitter end (tied to the bow cleat) is reached. Then I shut down the engines and lower the stern anchor. The bow line is then brought in until the stern line is tight. The bow line is then tightened on the cleat, leaving the boat halfway between the two anchors (seventy-five feet of line out in the bow and stern). Practice this during the day as well.

Now for the tackle. I prefer spinning tackle. Not because it is the best tackle for pulling fish from rocky areas (it isn't), but because it is easy for those "non-experts" to use and affords terrific sport. It may be hard to believe, but we have less than a one percent loss record on my boat.

I prefer eight to ten foot spinning rods balanced against reels carrying twelve to fifteen pound test and silk smooth drags. I prefer Cardinal reels mainly because I can reach out and adjust someone's drag without getting my fingers caught by a madly whirling bail head. We use trebles ranging from 1/0 to 3/0 and pre-rigged on Sevenstrand or Berkley nylon covered stranded wire testing at forty-five pounds. I use open-ringed Mustad trebles which are then closed around a perfection loop tied in the steel leader. I tie a perfection loop into the other end of the leader (about twenty-four inches long) so that it can easily be attached to the spinning line's snap swivel. The bass are not bothered by the leader and it will prevent loss of a fish rubbing against the bottom or a boulder in an attempt to dislodge the hook. When blues show up it also comes in handy. I have tried burying all three points in the mackerel steak, but have found that it is unnecessary to do this to fool the bass. Now I leave two points exposed,

ready to bury themselves in the throat of the quarry.

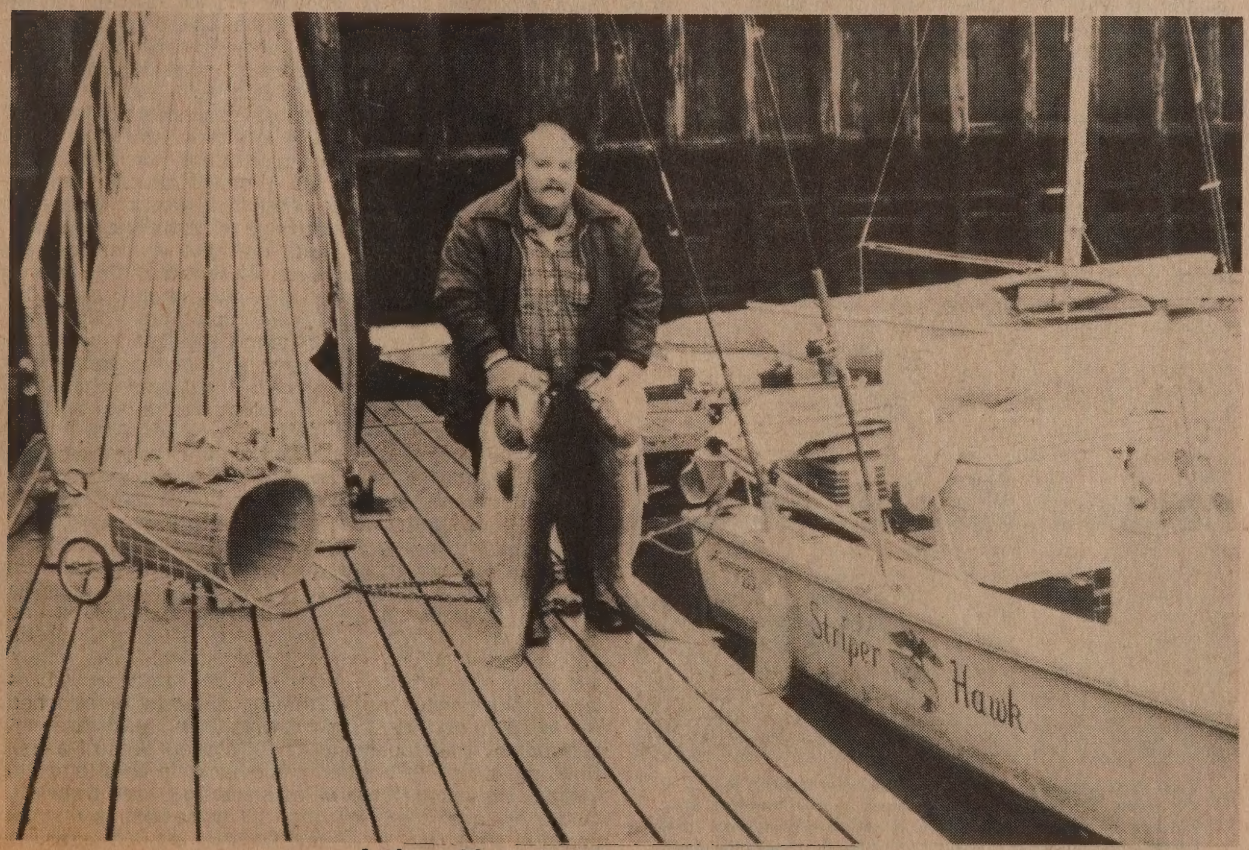
With the steak in place on the hook you only have to cast it out, placing it ten feet off a likely looking boulder, mussel bed, jetty or dropoff. The rod is then placed into a rod holder with the bail OPEN. It is vital that the bass feel no resistance when he picks up the bait and begins to move off with it. When the wind and tide are calm, no line will peel off your reel unless you get a strike, but conditions aren't always that simple so you make use of a very important piece of equipment, the RUBBER BAND. Yes, I said RUBBER BAND. Each of your rods should have a heavy one around the foregrip just ahead of the spinning reel. When the line will not stay on the spool with the bail open you merely have to place a loop of the line under the rubber band and you're ready. When in use, it acts like an outrigger clip. When a fish hits, the loop is pulled out from under the rubber band and line peels off the spool just as it would if conditions allow you to fish without the rubber band.

When you get a runoff, pick up the rod and point it in the direction you THINK the line is being taken and count five to ten seconds, depending on the speed of the runoff; the faster he runs the less time you wait. Then close the bail and strike hard, pulling way back on the rod to take any slack out of the line. You may find that the fish was running in a direction contrary to what you thought; often the fish will take off at right angles, but the line still seems to be peeling off the reel straight away from you. Here the spinning reel comes into its own, the high gear ratio allowing you to pick up slack line quickly. If this happens you must strike the fish hard as soon as all slack is gone. Long spinning rods come in handy when fighting fish among the boulders as they help keep much of the line up in the air and out of harm's way; rubbing against barnacle-covered rocks is not good for your line.

It's easy to fish half a dozen lines using this method with each bait cast to a different spot. Before beginning,

(Continued on page 29.)

Freshly gaffed beauty hits the deck



Author with a pair of Prospect Point 35 pounders

DO'S & DON'TS—

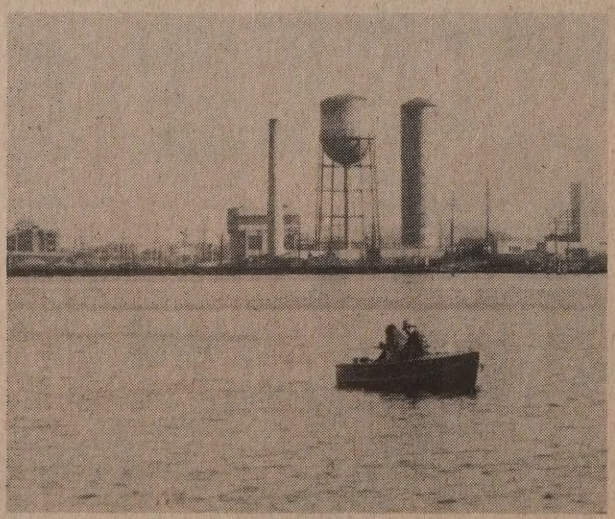
FISHING FROM RENTAL SKIFFS

★PART TWO★

by Sal Terranova

One of the most annoying things that can happen to anglers fishing from a skiff is to run out of bait or hooks and sinkers just when the fish are biting hot and heavy. To prevent this from happening to you, be certain to buy plenty of bait, even a bit more than you think necessary to be on the safe side. The same applies to terminal gear also, for you are better off having too much than too little. If you are going to fish for fluke or weakfish, remember to bring a landing net, preferably one with a wide mouth in case you should hook into that fifteen pound doormat you've been dreaming about all these years. If you plan to go flounder fishing, bring along a chum pot. Before I go further, let me explain what a chum pot is for the benefit of the beginners among you. A chum pot is a cylindrical container about a foot high and five inches or so in diameter—though some larger sized ones are manufactured. The pot is made of galvanized wire mesh and has a heavy bottom made of lead to provide stability. On top, there is an opening where the chum is inserted—chum being any type of bait that will attract fish to the area, which in this case usually consists of crushed clams or mussels. You tie a cord to the pot and lower it to the bottom. The current flowing through the wire mesh will dissipate the natural juices and small bits of chum through the water, thereby attracting fish to the vicinity of your boat.

Though some anglers may feel that a chum pot is not a necessity, I strongly believe chumming by means of a pot is a must for anyone who wishes to engage in any serious flounder fishing. True, you can crack mussels and fling them over the side. However, this process results in the chum being scattered all over the place by the current, and not necessarily under the boat where it belongs. A chum pot will keep the chum concentrated under the boat where it will do you the most good. It will also eliminate the nuisance of having to crack mussels or fling corn over the side every couple of minutes. Once you have initially filled the pot with chum, all you need to do is put some fresh chum in perhaps once every hour or so. A chum pot should also be used any time you engage in any bottom fishing in the bays. In the summer, a chum pot full of crushed skimmers will prove effective in attracting porgies, kingfish and blowfish to your boat. If you're fishing for snappers, try chumming for them if you want some really hectic action. The method of chumming used for snappers differs from that described above. Buy a couple of cans of fish-flavored cat food (mackerel is good) and sardines. Mix both substances together in a small plastic pail, breaking the sardines into bait-sized chunks, then add an amount of seawater roughly equal to twice the amount of chum, and stir up the whole mess. Ladle a tablespoonful of the goo over the side every now and then to maintain a slick (caused by the oil in the sardines) and watch the snappers go berserk.



Two skiff anglers try their luck flounder fishing in one of the many back creeks that abound in the Freeport area. Fortunately most of the prime flounder grounds on Long Island offer more aesthtically appealling background views than the tanks and smokestacks shown here.

Flounder fanatics should seriously consider bringing along an extra anchor in order to double-anchor your skiff. A lightweight Danforth anchor with about fifty feet of line should be fine. Double anchoring consists of using two anchors; one from the bow, and the other from the stern. This procedure stops the boat from swinging back and forth as it would on one anchor, especially on a windy day when the breeze is blowing cross-current. Double anchoring is advantageous because the boat stays steady over the chum, and the chum is not scattered all over as it will if the boat is swinging. Double anchoring also will make it easier for your baits to remain in one place under the boat. Another advantage of this procedure is that it will allow all anglers aboard to keep their baits in the area where they will benefit the most from the piscine attraction provided by the chum. Double anchoring is best accomplished by first dropping the bow anchor and waiting until the line is almost taut before dropping the stern anchor and tying it short.

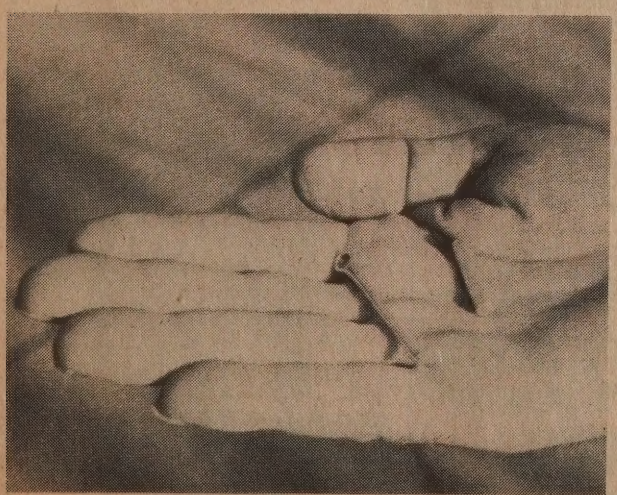
An item that may come in handy when fishing in shallow bays such as Shinnecock where there exists a possibility of running around, especially during low-tide periods, is an extra set of shear pins. However, you must be certain the pins you have will fit the outboard engine you will be using. Fishing stations usually provide anglers with a Xerox copy of a map of the general area where you will be fishing. The station personnel will usually mark off the spots where the latest fishing action is happening. Although these maps will suffice for this purpose, you may want to bring along a copy of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration map appropriate for the area you are fishing. These charts are valid for navigational purposes, but more pertinent to your needs; they are more accurate and cover a wider area than the maps handed out by the fishing station people. Even if you don't

bring these charts along on a trip, studying them beforehand in order to familiarize yourself with the area you intend fishing can only help.

One item that is an absolute must when fishing from a rental skiff is a compass. Most any compass will do, including your typical hand-held Boy Scout compass. Since you are not going to use the compass to take bearings or follow a plotted course, anything that will point north is fine. The compass is needed in case dense fog should roll in. In such a situation, you are not going to be able to use visual bearings or rely on your memory to get back to the dock, even though you may be a scant half-mile from the station. The compass will reassure you that you're headed in the general direction of the station. Although this method is not exactly what you would term pinpoint navigation, at least you won't find yourself sailing out to sea or in the wrong direction and running out of gas, while all the time you thought the station was just around the next bend.

Always keep an eye on the weather. What may start out as a beautiful day can "turn sour within the hour," as a friend of mine is fond of saying. Even twenty mile per hour winds can be dangerous when out on a skiff, especially if the wind direction is opposed to the tidal direction. Any strong wind can make shallow water bays such as the ones found on the South Shore of Long Island very choppy and tricky. Rental skiffs are sturdy and safe craft, but they are only 16' open boats and thus have their limits. Strong winds blowing out of an easterly direction—especially southeast—are the winds to watch out for on South Shore bays. A strong northwester is no bargain either. If the weather should show signs of turning sour, but is still not bad enough to warrant calling it a day, the best course you can take (no pun intended) is to head back to a fishing spot in close proximity to the station. This way, if the weather gets really bad, it's only a short haul back to the dock.

I hope these few tips I've passed along here will help you to derive more enjoyment from your skiff fishing expeditions and avoid any hassles. During a day of fishing aboard a skiff, you are likely to accumulate an amount of trash in the form of empty beer and soda cans, bait containers, sandwich wrappers, and so on. Please don't use our bays as garbarge cans! Give the folks at the fishing station a break too, by collecting the trash, putting it in a bag and disposing of it properly back at the dock. Fishing station personnel have plenty to do, so please don't make their jobs any harder by cleaning fish on the boat and cutting bait on the seats. Cut the bait on the boards provided, and wait until you get back to the dock to clean your catch at the facilities provided at the station. Leaving the boat as clean as possible will surely be appreciated by the folks at the station. Have fun and good fishing!



A set of shear pins may come in handy when fishing in a shallow water bay where the possibility of running aground exists. Make sure the pins you get will fit a 9½ or 10 H.P. outboard.

Stripers Love Steak—
MACKEREL STEAK!

(Continued from page 27.)

a "batting order" must be established for the anglers on board to make sure that everyone has a chance at some fish. It is quite possible for one rod to become the hot one and this way everyone get a chance at it. Once the order is established, all six rods belong to the number one man until he lands a fish, then all rods belong to number two, and so on. This method also removes any handicap from an angler who is not skilled at accuracy casting.

Accuracy and distance are sometimes necessary, depending on the spot. One of my favorites is a place called Middle Reef, near Orchard Beach in the Bronx. I would head for the spot from the twin buoys off Orchard Beach, navigating in darkness by the compass and the tachometer. The telltale rise of the bottom on the depth recorder means I am close to the rock pile. I ease forward just as the sky begins to turn pale and nose the bow to within twenty feet of a huge boulder. Here we drop the bow anchor and begin backing the boat perpendicular to the reef. Once the two anchors are in and the boat is positioned, we fan out the baits all along the reef. I like fishing the west side of the reef in all tides and have found that it is the time of day rather than the tide here that is important. I have an eleven foot surf rod on board that allows me to place a mackerel chunk (the tail chunk is best for long distance) about eighty yards down the reef to the right. With the other rods we place baits in front of every prominent boulder and one on the mussel bed at the left side of the reef if it is covered with water. Checking this place out at low tide is strongly recommended. The fish will slug it out on your side of the reef, running down its length whenever possible. Even at high tide, I have yet to have one swim over the reef; I don't know why but I am not going to complain.

From this quiet little spot which everybody races past (it's too close to home to attract attention from the hordes of boats racing out into the Sound from City Island) we have pulled many, many bass up to twenty-nine pounds. Some days had the fish box filled half and half with blues and bass.

Another spot I like is Prospect Point among the boulders in front of the big, white house located there. I approach from the Sound heading right for the sliding pond in their swimming pool and then anchor just outside a pair of large boulders. I set up parallel to the shore line and place an equal number of baits toward shore as away from it. This spot has the added feature that schoolies often come tearing through here within casting range, so keep a few rods ready and rigged with small Creek Chub Chrome poppers. This spot is heavily trafficked, so get there first!!

Just around the bend heading into Hempstead Harbor there is a cluster of rocks just off the beach. I like to anchor parallel to shore southeast of the rocks by about 200 feet. This way we can place a few baits near the boulders off the bow and also fish the lip of a deep dropoff off the stern. This spot is even more heavily trafficked as it produces well for wire line trollers in the channel just outside of where I anchor. However, it has produced fish up to forty-two pounds.

The Sound is full of "hotspots"; you only have to search them out and experiment. Some other good ones are: between the shore and the light at the south end of Hart's Island, the chimney at Hart's Island, Barker's Point, Sand's Point, Middle Ground off Fort Slocum, the Scotch Caps, Transport Rock, the Larchmont breakwater, and many others. Just check out each spot during the day, draw a picture of the layout at low tide, and note all pertinent navigational information and you'll be able to develop some lesser known hotspots.

Set the alarm clock to give you enough time to get to your spot, for once you are successful the competition will soon know where. You will know when and how.

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MONTAUK
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COD

Henry Colombi at **Star Island Yacht Club** tells us that six or seven boats out on the weekend and all did fairly well on cod. Phil Rubin on his boat Sea For Two and friend Big John over the weekend boated 150 cod up to 25 lbs. at Southwest Ledge on bait. Marie III picked up some cod and the Lori Jay on Saturday pulled 60 cod. This is all on bait. Flounder action is just beginning.

Capt. Mike of the charterboat **Montauk** tells of a solid weekend with Saturday's charter bagging 61 cod from 8 to 15 lbs. plus a couple of pollack and blackfish. Sunday's body count was 60 cod and the majority of all fish has been on bait. Some flounder were picked on Friday up to 3 lbs.

Capt. Buddy Dorman of the **Viking Skipper** fished the southwest ledge of Block Island and south of the island itself and had cod and pollack in the 20 to 28 lb. class. Average fish size was 5 to 12 lbs. Larger cod and pollack are south of Block. Ed Parker and son Robert of Howard Beach had 29 and 27 cod respectively. Fourteen yr. old Wayne Berkhofer of Montauk boated 24 cod. This was on both bait and jigs. Sunday Mike Dexter pulled 19 cod. Buddy expects a very strong run of cod and pollack to explode momentarily.

Charterboat **King Wayne** reports that Saturday's charter for Ma Bell of Forest Hills lead by John Rudda resulted in the 16 happy anglers

Albert Martel hefts brace of cod taken on handlines aboard the Montauk Capt. Willie.

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SOUTH FORK
★ BEST BET ★
MACKEREL

George Dye and John Conti with a pair of nice stripers taken last November aboard the Montauk charterboat Julie III.

blasting away at Southwest Ledge for 60 cod and several pollack and 12 blackfish plus a 2 lb. lobster taken on hook and line. This was in the morning. The blacks ran to 7 lbs. They fished the Appletree in the afternoon and had 18 more cod to 30 lbs. Sunday was pretty much a repeat of Saturday for the charter of Shoreham Steamfitters lead by Mike Kelly. They had 42 cod in the morning at Southwest Ledge and roughly 40 more in the afternoon at Appletree, mostly on clam, but some on jigs. Capt. Wayne says the snowshoes are there and advises that if fishing the area for cod put a flounder hook in the sinker loop for a bonus fat flattie. Mike Vigillant son of the late Dick Vigillant is now mating on the boat.

Captain Ron Grandinetti of the **Julie III** fished Cartwright on Saturday and Sunday with parties led by Gene Lee and Lou Medeot on Sunday. Total catch for the two days came to 85 cod to 15 lbs. and four pollack up to 10 lbs. In addition, four flounder up to 3½ lbs. were taken along Gin Beach.

Capt. Phil Lewis of the charterboat **Adios** told us that Saturday's charter for Allen Royen and group of Copiague had a good codfish catch with over 50 cod pulled at Southwest Ledge in the 8 to 12 lb. category, all on bait. Sunday's charter found the going a little slower but they still managed a more than decent catch. Phil anticipates a good run of pollack moving in shortly.

Capt. Frank of the **Free Spirit** called to tell us that the boat is in the water now and he's ready to sail flounder and cod charters now. This year the boat is at Snug Harbor. Frank also says his June shark dates a going fast so reserve early.

SHINNECOCK

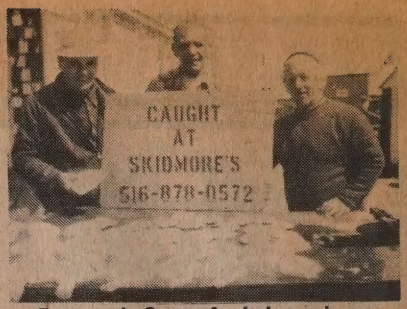
Tom at **Speck's Bait and Tackle** managed to spend some time over the weekend with his brother George out at the C buoy. In just a couple of hours, the pair loaded over 250 mackerel into their skiff. Mackerel also showing up in Jessups, according to Tom, but best action is outside of Shinnecock Inlet. As for the flounders, Ed Urban, his son-in-law and grandson Mike, fished the Sag Harbor area on Saturday and took 26 flatties with the biggest fish being an astounding 4¼ lbs. The big fish measured 19" long. Good flounder fishing in Noyac Bay on worms and mussels, but weekend weather kept the angler turnout down.

MORICHES BAY

Silly Lilly Fishing Station tells us the fishing has had it's ups and downs this week due to the abundance of wind. Bob Villano and sons Rich and Bob of Centereach came in with a bucketful of flounder up to 1½ lbs. fishing south of buoy 39 on worm and mussel chum. They fished outgoing and part of the incoming Sunday. Good catches were made Saturday. There are more fish now off the Coast Guard Station as the water warms.

Al at **Highway Fishing Station** tells of very good flounder catches through Friday, fish from 1-2 lbs. Action was west of the station at buoys 27 and 28 with an incoming tide best on bloods and plenty of chum.

Phil, Rob, Dick, Graham and Malcom with a few of the 30 monster blues taken on diamond jigs taken aboard the Montauk charter boat King Wayne last November. Fishing was done at Southwest Ledge.



Pat and Sam Ambrico along with Rick Ziccarvi display a catch of 62 flounder taken in the mouth of Seatuck Cove on bloodworms and mussel chum. Photo courtesy of Skidmore's Fishing Station.

Andy of **Sea Tuck Cove Fishing Station** in Eastport called to report very good flounder action this week at the mouth of Seatuck Cove. Fish have been bigger, as well as more plentiful in recent days. On Saturday, Dennis Wagner and friends Ricky and Ray totalled 83 flounder, many over 1 lb. at the mouth of the Cove. Best action has been during incoming water on worms and mussel chum.

Bill at **East Moriches Bait and Tackle** described the flounder fishing in the area as steady. He mentioned buoys 42 and 43 and Seatuck Cove as consistently producing fish. Many boats have been averaging anywhere from 40-50 flatties. Stan Saneski and Brian Formhals fished in 75' of water south of the Inlet on Saturday and loaded up with 900 lbs. of Boston mackerel. On Sunday, Pete Miglionico and his sons P.J. and Tom fished the same area and in a short time loaded up with 300 lbs. of the scrappy gamesters.

Cheryl of **Westhampton Marine Supply** knew of some weakfish picked up at buoy 7A. This action should improve considerably in the next week or so. Still some good flounder fishing in the Quogue Canal and lots of mackerel taken by boatmen south of the C buoy. Cheryl also passed along word that gillnetters have been taking small bass along the beach between Moriches and Shinnecock Inlets.

Eli Wienberger and Jerry Silbert of Brooklyn with a catch of 68 flounder made at Buoy 43 on sandworms and mussel chum. The pair fished out of L & M Marine in East Moriches.

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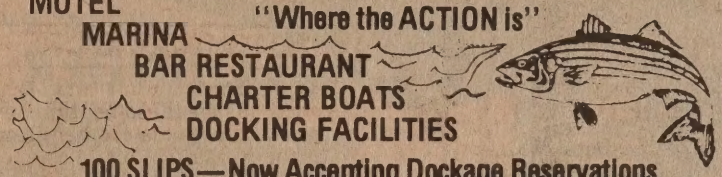

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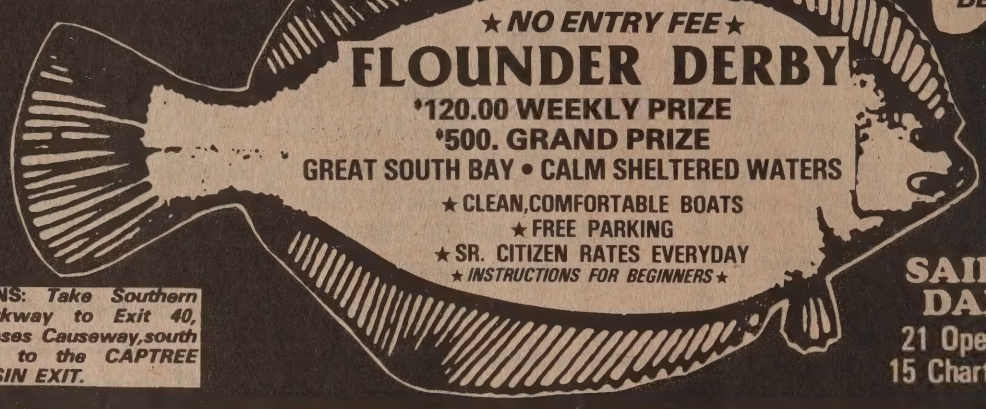

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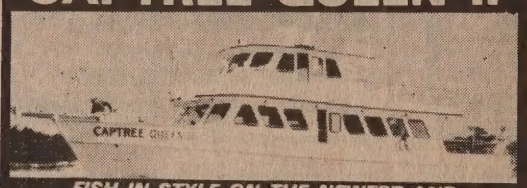

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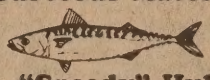

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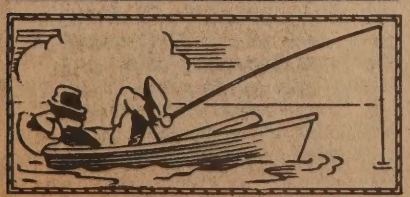

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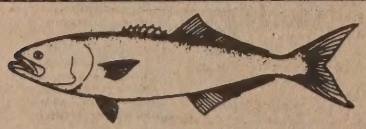

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MASTIC BEACH

Stiriz' Fishing Station reports slow catches of flounder over the weekend but during the week fish were pocketed up and those who made many drops could get a decent day's catch. Bloodworms, mussel and mussel chum are the ticket. Gary says the bay draggers are doing a lot of damage to the local fishing. These are professional outfits that go about their job of dragging nets seven days a week.

SAYVILLE

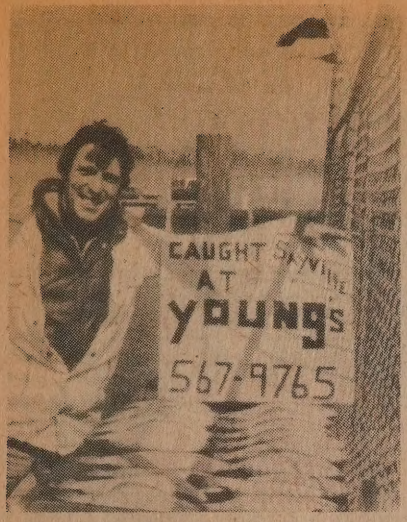
At **Young's Fishing Station**, Bob Lee reported that he weighed his first weakfish of the season on Saturday. Tom Milano and Vincent France returned with a 9¾ lb. tiderunner taken on a jelly worm at Ocean Beach. Flounder still holding up on the Heckscher flats and off of LaSalle Military Academy, but the fish are definitely moving west towards the Inlet. On Friday, a couple of Bob's regular customers journeyed over to the mouth of the Nissequogue River and did a job on the white perch. Clay Hardmann and Steve Cohen wracked up 53 of the tasty scrappers on garden worms and Mepps spinners. They ran up to 1½ lbs.

WEST SAYVILLE

Vinnie at **South Bay Fishing Station** reported that flounder are hanging in there and that some eels are mixed in. Worms and mussel chum have been working best, with the Cherry Grove and Barrett Beach areas still getting the most play. Biggest fish of the week was 1¾ lbs. Netters in this area of the bay have been taking weaks regularly along with loads of bunker. Vinnie knew of a couple of hook and line weakfish to 6½ lbs. taken in the east bay.

OAKDALE

Ron Digiacomo of **J&R Sports Center** also put his first weakfish on the scale Saturday. The 10 lb. 1 oz. yellowfin was taken by Jeff Hayward on a jelly worm at Ocean Beach. Plenty of mackerel outside of Fire Island Inlet in 60' of water, according to Rod. For trout fans, Wayne Mahy fished Swan Lake in Patchogue with white maribou Muddlers and took 6 brookies from 11" to 14".



These 25 flounder up to 1¾ lbs. were taken off of Point O Woods on worms and mussels by Steve Cohn. He fished out of Young's Fishing Station in Savyille.

BAY SHORE

Carl at **Smokey's Bait and Tackle** said that Tom Bannon of W. Babylon and Bob Niven of Bay Shore clicked with a pair of weakfish at Ocean Beach on Saturday. The fish, taken on jelly worms, weighed 9 lbs. 4 oz. and 8 lbs. 5 oz., respectively. Al Randazzo, Bob McReynolds and John Schultz stopped by the shop on Saturday with a garbage pail full of Promised Land flounder. The big flatties ranged from 2-3¼ lbs. They were all taken on mussels and clams. Carl described the flounder fishing behind Sore Thumb and in West Channel as decent on Saturday. Some boats took 20-30 fish apiece on worms and mussels. Two boats from the Surf Side 3 Tuna Club, the Rum and Coke and the Serena Two loaded up on mackerel in 65' of water southwest of the inlet on Saturday. Blue claw crabs beginning to show in the area.

Capt. Neil of the **Casey Lee** tells of good flounder fishing all week. Monday's high hook was Artie Hartmann of New Hyde Park with 31 flounder. Tuesday nearly 500 flounder came over the rails, mostly 1 to 1½ lb. fish. High hook Friday was Victor Barresi of Oakdale with 34 fish. Saturday's high hook was 37 flounder for New Hyde Park flounder pounder Hy Brown who also had 3 doubleheaders on one drop. Red dyed clam and bloodworms were the key and best areas were Sexton and West Islands and plus the Sore Thumb.

Capt. Fred Webley of the charterboat **Seamist** called to tell us that he is in the water and now sailing from Capt. Bill's Dock in Bay Shore. Fred is now booking flounder and mackerel charters. See ad for details.

CAPTREE

Ed Whitney and Al Bento of Bay Shore Tuna Club fished on the Patricia Saturday and had 80 mackerel. Sal and Rudy on the Jen-S had 25 macks. Dick Bohner on the boat Reet-D had 50 Saturday morning. This was all west southwest of Fire Is. Inlet in 65 to 75' of water.

Capt. Dave of the **Capt. Leo D** called to report that the flounder fishing was picky in the Inlet Sunday and he decided to experiment with fluke and made 4 drifts. They took 4 fluke which as far as he knows were the first taken in that area. The largest was a 3½ pounder caught by Mike Cerone on the Bronx. This catch was made under extremely poor conditions, a very fast ebb tide and a strong east wind.

The **Captree Queen II** reports that catches varied from day to day all through this past week and weekend with most days slow-fair. High hooks usually ranged from 8 to 20 flounder depending on the day with fish running ¾ to 1 lbs. There was a showing of flounder at Farm Shoals and the Sore Thumb Thursday and Sunday on the mussel beds just 10 minutes from Captree. A few reports of a couple of fluke and weakfish being caught with the **Capt. Leo D** taking 4 keeper fluke near the bridge Sunday. Artic Terns have moved into the bay another good weakfish sign. The boat will be weakfishing starting Friday at 3:30 p.m. and will also make a few fluke drifts later in the week to see whats what.

Charter boat **Lady Ann** tells of good flounder catches all week with the best day at the Sore Thumb where close to 400 keepers were boated. Worm, clam and red dyed clam all worked.

Charter boat **Blue Albatross II** enjoyed a super mackerel catch Sunday for the Electro-Craft Co of Brooklyn. By 11:00 a.m. passengers were arm weary. Catches were made just southwest of the Whistler in just 60' of water.

The crummy weather Sunday wiped out part of the blessing of the Captree Fleet. The actual blessing did take place with good crowds there to observe, but the balance will be held this Sunday and it is hoped that the weather will be more cooperative. The boats were all decked out in flags and there was a very festive atmosphere at the dock. If you can make it on Sunday, you will enjoy a pleasant experience.

Bob at the **Captree Bait Station** described the flounder fishing as picky but still hanging in there, with the best action at the inlet. Very good mackerel fishing outside of F.I. Inlet in 60' to 70' of water. The flounder dock pool winner for the week was John Emma of Ronkonkoma with a 2 lb. 4 oz. flattie taken aboard the open boat **Captain Rod**. Bob added that there has been decent flounder fishing at the Jones Beach fishing pier, although the Captree Pier has been very slow.

Captain Rod Westerlind of the

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open boat **Captain Rod** described the flatfishing as slow to fair. Best fishing is now in the inlet area from the old lighthouse to the Sore Thumb. Worms, clams and mussels have all remained effective, with the best action occurring around the tide changes. Rod knew that one private boat took 4 small fluke in the inlet over the weekend.

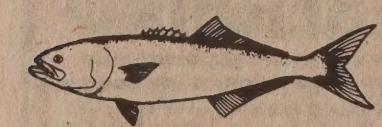
Charter boat **Capt. Eddie B II** called to tell us that Saturday's charter for the Central Islip Fire Department boated nearly 900 mackerel fishing east southeast of Fire Isl Inlet fishing 60' of water. Eddie says they steadily pick the fish all day long. Sunday's charter for the Q & N Rod and Gun Club boated 150 flounder working the Sore Thumb with worm and clam. Best fishing was at the top of the flood and the start of the ebb.

BABYLON

Margaret of **Charlie's Fishing Station** said that while Sunday was a total washout, there was some good flounder fishing on Saturday at the Babylon Cut and off of Bergen Point. Jimmy Martin filled a bucket with nice, thick flatties using worm bait on Saturday.

The word from **Augie's Bait and Tackle** was all of the mackerel you want south and west of the whistler buoy. Flounder fishing in the bay spotty, with some fish being taken off of Good Sam on worms and corn rigs. The shop is under new ownership and undergoing renovations which will make it bigger and better. It will be about two weeks before the shop is open on a regular schedule. For the time being, the store will be open Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Charterboat **Seabird** sailed as open boat Saturday and 11 fares had nearly 700 macks in one 4 hr. drift working southwest of Jones Inlet six miles off the beach. The boat will be sailing open boat again Saturday, May 3rd at 7:00 a.m. for mackerel.



Tom and Bill Campanaro with a catch of flounder taken west of the 2nd Wantagh Bridge. Subscriber Club Photo.

SOUTH SHORE BAYS

★ BEST BET ★ FLOUNDER

LINDENHURST

Charlie's Bait & Tackle reports plenty of flounder at Squaw Island and Fox Creek, off the Babylon pool and at the Sore Thumb. Mackerel due south of the Inlet in 70' of water. John weighed in a 6 and 8 lb. weakfish taken by a clam digger during the week.

AMITYVILLE

Marie told us from **Combs Tackle Shop** that flounder fishing continues good in the area, with some fish being taken at John Burns Park and off of the town dock. Weakfishing should be opening up in about a week.

SEAFORD

At **Lon Wanser's Tackle Shop** we received word of good flounder fishing in Massapequa Cove, West Island, Wansers Cut, Zach' Bay, the 3rd bridge and at Four Corners on worms and mussel chum. Fish are nice sized and outgoing tide has been producing best. Charlie Welsh, who works in the shop, took 45 nice flatties in the Merrick area late last week. Lots of mackerel outside for boatmen.

Bob's Fishing Station reports that the best flounder fishing during the past week has been Massapequa Cove and Four Corners with worms and mussels working best with heavy chumming necessary if you want to catch fish. Both sides of the high have been best and fish are running from 1/2 to 1½ lbs. Boats are returning with anywhere from 5-50 keepers depending on the talents of the men on the rod.

Pete at **Uncle Hermie's Fishing Station** tells us that during the week the skiffs averaged 20-30 keepers per boat, working Massapequa Cove and Squaw Island. The west side of the Wantagh bridges also produced for those chumming heavily with bloods and mussels on the hook; both tides working.

BELLMORE

Bronco at **Merrick Tackle** tells of mackerel just outside the inlet in 60 to 80' of water. Flounders have been a decent item at the Golf Course to the tune of 20 to 25 per boat. Phil Cook of Bellmore boated 25 flatties up to 2 lbs. 4 oz. and grabbed himself a LIF skillful angling award.

Jim and John Goldrick with 70 flounder from ¾ to 2 lbs. taken on bloodworms and corn chum east of the Jones Beach fishing piers. Subcriber Club Photo.

Bunker and herring are splashing throughout Merrick Bay. Weaks should be here shortly.

MERRICK

Nick's Fishing Station reports decent catches of flounder but you've got to make many drops to locate the fish and the optimum tides vary. Areas that have produced this week have been the Green house, bent pole, the golf course and Neds Creek. Fish are running from 1/2 to 1¼ lbs. on blood worms and red-dyed clam, mussel chum a big assist. Your Reporter fished Neds Creek Saturday on incoming water and in two hours time had 12 good keepers up to 1¼ lbs. with four fish that had to be considerably larger lost at the boat. Prior to this drop, four non-productive drops were made in usually good spots. This was on bloodworm and red-dyed clam and no chum.

BALDWIN

Andy at **Arthur Street Fishing Station** tells us that Herb Camptone on his boat Bib Mo along with Howrad Novick accounted for 162 keeper flounder fishing buoy 9 in Reynolds Channel. Fish ran from ½ to 1½ lbs. This was Wednesday at the beginning of the flood on worm and mussel. Saturday Steve Spatenga and Dad loaded up on mackerel at the 2nd buoy off Jones.

WEST END SOUTH SHORE

★ BEST BET ★ MACKEREL

FREEPORT

Capt. Sy Karlin of the **Blue Fin Fleet** told us that the II and III both had good catches of big Boston Mackerel Sunday along with herring and whiting, all of which were jigged south of the Whistler. On Saturday, with Sy driving the two and Capt. Tony Dilerania behind the wheel of the III, flounder were caught up to 1¾ lbs. Pool fish went Jose Barreto. High hook of the weekend was Sal Sefouic with 25 keepers. Best action was Reynold's Channel on mussel, clam and corn chum. Sy will be running an offshore cod wreck trip Monday, May 19th. Reservations are required so call now if interested. See ad for details.

The **Capt. Al** tells of very good mackerel fishing in very local waters, around the Cholera. Wednesday was super says Al, with customers getting anywhere from half a burlap back on up. Thursday afternoon was also great on the big Bostonians. Saturday they worked south of the Whistler on a 3 hr. drift and bagged up. Sunday's action was 5 miles south of Jones. It was find and lose the fish, find and lose the fish again and then they stayed on them for 2 hours and had a steady slaughter. That was more or less the picture for Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. These were all 1½ to 2½ lb. big Bostons. Al expects a good solid 2 weeks of macks.

The **Capt. Bill** is now back in the canal with a brand new pilot house and he has been working away on his two trip a day flounder runs with good catches.

The **Starstream II** has been enjoying excellent mackerel fishing all week and Capt. Richie says these are big Boston macks right in our "backyard". Anyone fishing hard can walk off the boat with well over a burlap bag full. Doc. Steve Goldstein and son filled a 55 gal. drum to the top on Monday. Richie says the fishing couldn't be better. The harder you fish the more fish you catch—that's the name of the game. Richie emphasizes the mackerel are very close. He asks you to come down and see the new cabin interior which makes the boat look like the Conrad Hilton Hotel.

The **Capt. Lou III** tells of very good flounder fishing during the week. Thursday saw Bartell Waldman of Oceanside pick 28 keepers. Herb Schwartz of Long Beach had 35

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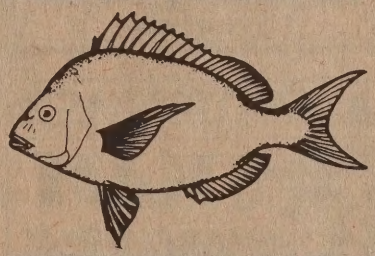

These two nice blackfish were taken by John Sulfaro and Joey Pollara out of Sheepshead Bay. Subscriber Club Photo.

★ Shinnecock Canal ★

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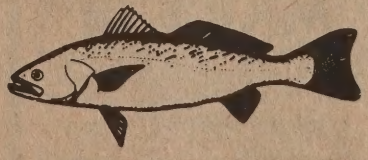

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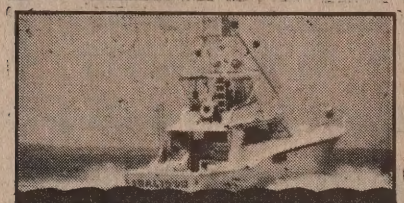
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CAPT. CLEM SR. CIT. RATE WEEKDAYS

flounder while Bob Sanks took 31 flounder. Joe Frongzkowski of New Hyde Park had 41 fish. Friday saw Pat Braker of Brookfield, CT, age 9 had 35 flounder. Mike Fayer of Great Neck a regular, had 40 flounder. Woodside angler Dave Reiter had 64 keepers. Weekend high hook was in the 30s. These wre all local drops. Two short fluke were taken and released Saturday. Capt. Mike is also now sailing the **Capt. Lou IV** starting Saturday. The boat will be running two flounder trips daily sailing at 7:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon. See ad for details.

The **Aloma II** reports while flounder fishing has not been excellent it has been good. High hooks are in the 20s everyday with novices bagging from 5 to 15 keepers. Pool fish usually runs from 1¾ to 2 lbs. and fish are averaging ½ to 1½ lbs. Best bait is bloodworms and outgoing tide seems to be the best producer.

Capt. Tony of the **Miss Freeport II** tells of good flounder fishing all week long though things did slow up for the weekend. Tuesday's catch was exceptional. Carl Wan had 42 flounder, Roy Chu had 35 flounder, Ben Strum had 25 and Bert Dunn had 20. All fares caught, and Freeport's local creeks and bays were the drop zones. Generally fish are averaging from ½ to 1½ lbs. Starting Thursday, May 1st, the boat will be sailing at 7:00 a.m. for mackerel.

Lou at **Charvin Fishing Station** tell us that Fuzzy Wengler and 21 members of the Atlantis Anglers made the Quincy trip and they averaged 100 lb. of flounder and 100 lb. of cod per 3 man in a skiff. Largest flounder ran 3 lbs. Good catches of mackerel are being made in 70' of water south of the Inlet all this past week and weekend as the mackerel having taken hold. The open boats and private boats have been having healthy catches of big Bostons. On Saturday two boats chummed and held fish, and it should be noted that they fished far apart. The Sand Pearl fished 200 degrees out of Jones in 60 to 65' of water and was rewarded with 300 lbs. of macks. The private boat Fish Tale worked 70' of water due south of Jones and 3 members of Atlantis Anglers loaded up. This was Carmine Farese and Mark Kaufman and George Maisch. Saturday saw the private boat Meri owned by East Bay Angler member Dick Mendelson had 9 cod up to 28 lbs. They fished the Yankee wreck. Dick reports loads of bergals on the wreck. Sunday was okay but off. A few blacks being taken at local bridges. Swift Creek and the Coast Guard Station have produced good flounders this past week.

Ronnie Feuring of **Sea Isle Sports Center** reported that boatmen have been hitting mackerel outside of the inlet. There has been good flounder fishing between Sloop Channel and

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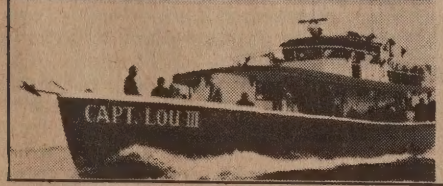

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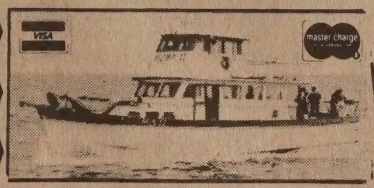

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the Wantagh Causeway. Merrick Bay has also been turning out some good scores. Best bait has been worms and mussels. The open and charter boat **Captain Gary** made its maiden voyage on Sunday, with a party from Times Square Stores in Oceanside. While the weather left much to be desired, the captain still described the flatfishing as fair. Jack Ballantine was high hook, with 10 flounder. While Victor Bush copped the pool with a 2 lber. Seven-year-old Justine Lanowitz scored with her first fish ever, a pair of nice flounder. The Captain fished in Reynolds Channel and will be sailing from Mullers Dock.

POINT LOOKOUT

At **Ed's Fishing Station** we heard from Marilyn that there was great flounder fishing all week, although action slowed on Sunday. Despite the weather though, one boat still managed to take 70 flatties. Ed Cook Sr. and Jr. and Joe Grubel had 100 flatties on worms and mussels up on the flats Saturday. Marilyn named buoys 16, 18, and 19 in Reynolds Channel as well as the flats as producing most fish, many of which have been over 1 lb. Plenty of mackerel a mile south of the whistler buoy.

At **Scottie's Marina** Andy Chisholm said that even with all the wind and rain some boats got out and managed 20-30 nice flounder apiece near buoys 17 and 19 in Reynolds Channel. Mussel bait and chum has been accounting for the best scores. Andy knew that some boats loaded up with mackerel in 40' to 70' of water south of the inlet on Saturday.

Capt. Dennis of the charter boat **Marie III** tells us that a charter for the nycpd Quartermaster Section had excellent flounder fishing in the morning. Dennis Venezia took the pool with a 1¾ lb. fish. Seven yr. old Gary Darzano was high hook amongst the junior anglers with 5 flounder. Best action was in Reynold's Channel between buoys 17 and 19. Worms working best on a dropping tide. Sunday's charter for Bob's Fishing Club, Lakeview, had slow picking for mackerel and whiting, a 50-50 ratio. This was 4 miles southwest of Jones Inlet.

ISLAND PARK

The **Commodore** reports pretty good flounder fishing all week. Catches averaging 20 keepers a man Saturday and Sunday. Clem says fish are in the main channels now. Worm, clam and mussel are still working and catches should continue to be very good throughout the next few weeks. Poles 17, 18 and 20 in Reynold's have been good. Clem has heard of a scattering of fluke catches. Garrett Lead has been another good flounder spot and flounders should be at the Coast Guard Station, Short Beach, any day. The fish are moving now and are running ½ to 1¾ lbs, both tides.

At **Beckmann's Tackle Shop** Charlie said that good flounder fishing continues in Reynolds Channel on mussels and worms, although fishing at local piers has dropped off. He had some reports of good blackfish scores made at the Jones Beach barge and it looks like we're off to a fine tautog season.

JAMAICA BAY

John at **Cross Bay Bait and Tackle** said that flounder continued to be taken at the north and south channel bridges. Most fish run from 1/2 to 3/4 lbs. and are being taken on worms and mussels. A few blackfish showing up at all of the bridges in the area and being taken on clams. Some bunker are now in the bay.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Captain Tom of the **Pilot II** reported excellent blackfishing on the Jersey Coast. Fares filled five gallon pails on Sunday with fish from 2-7 lbs. taken on green crabs and clams.

Captain Butch of the **Zephyr** enjoyed excellent flounder fishing right off of the jetties at the dredges. Catches ran from 15-50 fish per person in the 1-2 lb. range. These fish hit sandworms and clam. The **Zephyr** will begin blackfishing at 7AM daily, starting Friday, May 2.

STATEN ISLAND

Lenny at **Santos Sport Shop** reported that the weekend weather was a definite hindrance, but flounder fishing through Saturday continued good all over the area. As the season winds down, Lenny recommended the Stapleton Piers as a good late season bet. Most all of the flounder action has been on worms. Blackfish have begun showing up in their usual haunts and the fishing should pick up steam in the next week or two.

PECONICS & GARDINERS

★ BEST BET ★

FLOUNDER/MACKS

GREENPORT

A.P. White Bait Shop tells of a very good flounder weekend for the charterboat **Nancy Ann**, with 15 members of the Twins Inn Fishing Club boating over 200 flounders Sunday in the 1 to 3 lb. class at

These 3 lb. flounder were part of the catch of 20 ranging from 2 to 3 lbs. made by Tom Quigley and Kevin Keating off of Truman's Beach on mussels. Photo courtesy of Port of Egypt Fishing Station.

Petty's Bight. Capt. Richie Jensen remarked to Art that he still had a few good weakfish dates open. Art says excellent flounder fishing was had by all the Greenport headboats and charterboats especailly on Sunday when they fished with no wind. Mussel, clam and worm worked well from Petty's Bight to Orient on both tides and lots of flatfish were caught. Artie also says that the macs are "ass-deep" from the Greenport Jetty area. Artie says corn rigs are getting terrific results on the flatties.

The **Wilhelric** reports Tuesday saw excellent flounder fishing at Gardiners with fish to 3½ lbs. Thursday the boat fished Orient and Petty's Bight with excellent catches being made of more but slightly smaller fish. Saturday it was Gardiners again in the Cherry Harbor area which is the southwest shore of Gardiners. Flounders to 4 lb. were picked here. Worm-mussel combos have been working best for the big fish, either tide.

The ebb tide was best. At Petty's Bight catches were 15 to 20 average per man. At Gardiners the fish were bigger but were to the tune of 12 to 15 a man. Whispers of weakfish from Shinnecock Canal.

The **Brand X** reports that they've been fishing Hedges Banks and Long Beach toward Orient. The fish are there and are due to break loose any day says Capt. Porter. The water temp is just right and this weekend could be the bursting of the damn.

Capt. Bob of the **Peconic Star** called to report that they made their

★SHEEPSHEAD BAY★

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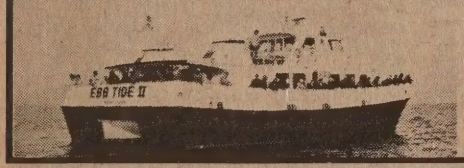

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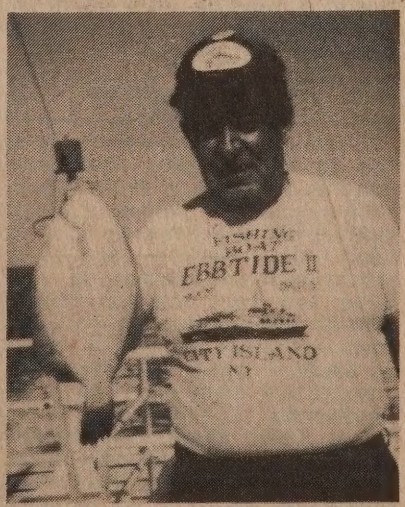

Tony Croce proudly displays his pool winning flounder taken aboard the City Island party boat Ebb Tide II.

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first trip into the Sound off Orient and Petty's Bight resulting in large catches of flounder. On Thursday Donald Becker of Middle Is. had 28 fish all averaging 1¼ lbs. Pool fish ran 2¾ lbs. Pete Donato of Commack had 40 flounders Friday running 1¼ to 3 lbs. all on mussel and worm. For the most part fishing was excellent throughout the weekend with all fares getting full pails. The boat will be fishing the Sound and Gardiners Is. from here on in.

SOUTHOLD

Ace at **Port of Egypt Fishing Station** reports that Sound fishing for flounder has been very good at Trumans and Pettys Bight and at the fish traps at the east end of the station. This is all out at Orient. Outgoing tide has been best on worms, clam, mussel and mussel chum. Saturday's low hook was 30 big flounder. One skiff containing three anglers came back with 175 fish from 1-3½ lbs. This boat worked off Trumans Beach. Mackerel are heavy in the bay, at the Greenport breakwater, Conklins and buoy 17 Jessups. This is on trees and diamond jigs. One weakfish was hooked and lost on a mackerel rig. Walt and Peter Morris fishing 8 lb. test line bagged 51 mackerel off Conklin Point up to 2 lbs. Flounders have been a slow pick in the Bay.

NEW SUFFOLK

Capt. Marty's Fishing Station tells of the first weakfish that was brought in by one of their boats Saturday which hit 2 lbs. and was part of a 25 fish mackerel catch. A few flounders being caught at Nassau Point in the 1½ to 2 lb. category on mussel and worm. These fish seem to be moving east right now. Also a few blackfish at South Race in the 4 lb. class hitting mussels covering flounder hooks. Two 10 lb. blackfish were brought in by a skiff on Sunday. Both tides are working in this area on all species.

AQUEBOGUE

Warren's Tackle reports good flounder catches being made from Iron Pier to the Duck Pond Motels. Fish running 1 to 2 lbs. on sandworms and mussels on the flood. Also, mackerel are being caught from the beaches by surfcaster and there are also schools further out. These are all big Bostons. Warren weighed in two 6 lb. blackfish which were caught at the Motels from the beach on sandworms. In the bay, Roses Grove, Cedar Beach and Nassau Point as well as Greenport's oyster factory are producing flounder on mussel and worm bait on incoming tide. Mackerel are being caught from the Greenport jetty through Jessups. An accidental 4 lb. weak was taken on a diamond jig in the bay. Warren feels that in no more than a week, the weakies will break loose. Watch for the lilacs.

NOYAC

Helen at **Noyac Marina** tells of very good flounder catches over the weekend and mackerel catches of the same category. Jose Carrero and Bill Diaz of Manhattan had 70 large flounder between them taken on bloodworms and mussels. Big fish to date is a 2 lb. 2 oz. specimen caught by Bill DaCosta Jr. Skiffs are averaging 15 to 70 fish, depending on the angler's talent and efforts. Fat Flounder Brown of Massapequa, formerly Flounder Belly Brown and friend Marcel had 50 flatties recently from 1 to 2 lbs. on worm and mussel.

SAG HARBOR

The **Wilhelric** reports big flounder are finally in at Gardiners and catches are being made in the 2½ plus range, both tides on mussel and worm bait.

Chris at **Bayview Marine & Tackle** is happy with the flounder. Over 50 flatties were taken on the rising tide Thursday for John Comito, Greg McMahon and Tom Marcuga. These fish ran from 1 to 2½ lbs. and hit mussel and worm. Ed Ervin bagged a 4½ lb. flounder at Gibson's Thursday on mussel. Macks at Jessups and Cedar Point on trees and diamond jigs.

EAST HAMPTON

Three Mile Harbor Fishing Station reports that Thursday Fred Sikowski, Tim Carolan of Richmond Hill had 75 flounder between them in the 2½ to 3 lb. range which is one of the best catches Bill has seen in awhile. Action was between the Fire Place and Buoy 8 on both tides using skimmers and mussels.

NORTH SHORE MID-ISLAND ★ BEST BET ★ MACKEREL

ROCKY POINT

Stan at the **Rocky Point Fishing Stop** looked over an outstanding catch of flounder made by Rocco Corso on Saturday fishing from Friendship Beach, Rocco totaled 14 big flatties including his biggest fish of 3¼ lbs. Also on Saturday, Mickey Christ fished Halleck Beach and filled a 5 gallon pail with fish running from 1-1½ lbs. Best flounder fishing from the beach in years, according to Stan. Good mackerel fishing at buoys 9 and 11. Most run 1½ to 2 lbs.

MT. SINAI HBR.

Ralph's Fishing Station says there is loads and loads of mackerel to be caught and his skiffs are bringing back 100 to 150 a boat, taken them mainly in the Sound at Buoy 11 on mackerel trees and diamond jigs. These fish are running 1½ to 2½ lbs. on any running tide and there are acres and acres of fish. Ralph says you can walk on the bait, it's so thick with big sandeels predominating. Flouners are being caught all along the beach with biggies inside of buoy 11 and off Miller Place on both tides. They are inside the harbor as well and will readily munch sandworms, mussel and clam. Chumming is a big help of course.

PORT JEFFERSON

Caraftis Fishing Station tells us there's all the macs you want out there with early morning the most productive time. Best action is outside the harbor at buoy 11. Very good flounder activity all week, mainly in the Flax Pond area. Fish are 1½ to 2 pounders hitting sandworms and mussel with a help from chum, both tides working. A few blacks in the 3 to 7 lb. range are starting to bite.

KINGS PARK

O.K. Bait & Tackle reports good flounder catches being made in the river and off Callahans Beach and the Mansion on mussel, sandworms and chum, both tides. Fifty fat keepers, some over 3 lbs., were pulled at Promised Land Saturday by Walter Boaro Jr. of Kings Park. Some macks are also being taken in deeper water further into the Sound.

Artie at **Sea & Ski** called to tell us that Jim Kane took 7 stripers up to 7 lbs. at the Hole at Short Beach on big mouth bucktails. Artie also heard that the flounder fishing in the river has remained good all through the weekend on sandworms, mussel and clam chum.

NORTHPORT

Tom of **Bowman's Sporting Goods** said that while weather hurt the weekend fishing picture, there had been good flounder fishing in the Sound off of Eatons Neck and Crabmeadow through Saturday. Incoming tide and a chum pot loaded with mussels or clams is the ticket. Mackerel being taken in the Sound from 1½ to 3 lbs.

HUNTINGTON

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Field on worms, mussels and red-dyed clams. Bill Hughes and a pair of friends had 45 from 3/4 to 1¾ lbs. here on Saturday. Also on Saturday, 37 members of the Underwriters Laboratory Fishing Club put away over 200 big flounder during a club charter. Club member Paul McGregor told Ronnie that the fishing was done off of Shoreham.

George at **Four Winds Bait and Tackle** reported quite a few mackerel out in the Sound. He knew of one boatman who took over 100 of the scrappers north of the Lilco platform Saturday morning. Good flounder fishing off of Marshall Field during the week with some going up to 1½ lbs. Most of the weekend was lost due to the weather.

Charterboat **Eclipse** called to tell us of the continued strong flounder activity and the mackerel off to a good start outside of Huntington Harbor and that he's got some choice dates still open.

Captain Don of the open boat **Ever Ready** called to report good flounder fishing in the area on Saturday's morning trip, Frank Hall took the pool with a 1½ lb. flattie, while Ray Novanty was high hook with 25 fish.

On the Sunday AM trip, Leo Riendeau was high hook with 15 nice flounder. He also had a pool fish of 2 lbs. even. Clams and worms both take fish, but the bigger flatties have been showing a preference for the clam bait. Corn and mussel chum is a big plus. Captain Don asked us to remind readers that mackerel and blackfish trips will be beginning soon, so keep an eye out for his ad.

NORTH SHORE WEST END

★ BEST BET ★ MACKEREL

SURF REPORT

with Fred Golofaro

GLEN COVE

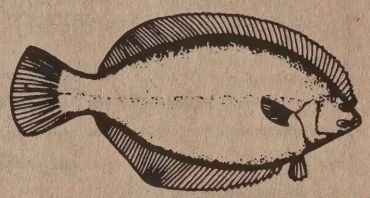
Capt. Joe Finke of the **Lady Lil II** called to say that the flounder fishing has slowed a bit with the fish taking a dip in size as well, but there are still large fish at Lloyds Neck and the Tide Rips. On Sunday his fares pulled a couple of blackfish up to 7 lbs. The pool winner was Franklin Sq. angler Steve Wojewodzic. Starting Wednesday, the boat will switch to mackerel. Joe has heard very good reports of mack attacks off buoy 32A.

John at the **Glen Cove Sport Shop** said that good flounder fishing is the rule in the area. Worms and clams accounting for most of the fish and any moving water producing best. Mackerel in the 1-2 lb. class have put in an appearance in Hempstead Harbor.

CITY ISLAND

Capt. Joe of the **Ebb Tide** says that though the flounder are still holding up he is now switching over to mackerel which have made a definite invasion into the **Ebb Tide's** field of fire.

Greg at **City Island Bait and Tackle** knew that casters took some blackfish from the shore near the City Island bridge. Flounder fishing in the area has taken a noticeable down-turn as waters warm.



The word around most of the Island this week was that few casters even bothered trying due to the weather.

Best bet for the coming week still looks to be Staten Island or Western Sound harbors and beaches for those with their sights set on stripers.

Weakfishing in the State Channel and in the Shinncock Canal should take hold any time now. The fish were picked up at both locations this past week.

Anyone looking to keep abreast of the striped bass situation should consider attending an open house being sponsored by Save Our Stripers on Friday, May 2nd at 8:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at V.F.W. Post 3211, 320 South Broadway, Hicksville. Admission is free and refreshments will be served. In addition, there will be a huge tackle raffle to spice up the night and at

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the same time, raise funds for an organization dedicated to the preservation of the striped bass.

Among those slated to speak are US Congressman Jerome A. Ambro, LIF Editor Doc. Muller, and Fred Schwab who is the NY delegate to the State-Federal Striped Bass Management Project. There will also be a slide presentation on the slaughter of big stripers at Cape Hatteras.

Individuals as well as those representing area fishing clubs are urged to attend. For more information, call (516) 541-8676.

Any club or organization wishing to publish anything of concern to Long Island surfcasters can address correspondence to me, c/o the Long Island Fisherman or call (516) 581-0077 evenings. Monday mornings I can reached at (516) 725-4200.

During the season we will be publishing the monthly standings of the NYS Surf Fishing Contest. It looks so far like the High Hill Striper Club and Farragut Striper Club have done a fine job of providing NY surfmen with an interclub competition to replace the now defunct Schaefer Contest.

Reports for the past week look this way:

SOUTH SHORE

As for the Staten Island striper action, Lenny of **Santo's Sport Shop** said that Great Kills Park continues to be the number one producer of fish ranging in size from shorts up to 5 lbs. An 18 pounder was taken on Friday. All the action up to this point has been on sandworms but Lenny feels that casters working inside of the harbor with artificials should start picking away any time now. Fish also being taken on worms at Penny Beach and South Beach although most of the bass here are shorts.

The only reports for west end south shore beaches that I could uncover were of a few small schoolie stripers taken at Democrat Point on worms. Most fishermen would do best to concentrate their efforts in the back for weakfish in the weeks to come.

Out in Shinnecock, Thom at **Speck's Bait & Tackle** knew that a few small weaks are being picked in the canal each day. Small bucktails, touts and tins along with jelly worms accounting for the fish. Thom passed along word that the Inlet at Mecox is now open and that locals will be giving it a good shot. At the east end of the Island, Johnny Kronuch reported that haul seiners took a couple of boxes of schoolies along the Sand Beach this week and also had a few weaks mixed in. No rod and reel bass as of yet. The lousy weather has kept most locals from hitting the beach at night.

NORTH SHORE

From his **City Island Sport Shop**, Greg told me that yellow bucktails, small Rebels and sandworms have

been accounting for stripers ranging from shorts up to 5 lbs. Greg added that there are some bait fish starting to show in the area.

In Glen Cove, John from the **Glen Cove Sports Shop** said that short bass are being taken by worm fishermen along a wide stretch of Glen Cove shoreline. He has not heard of any being taken on artificials as of yet.

Worth keeping in mind is that about this time last year, there was good fishing to be had along the Cold Spring Harbor Causeway. Anglers using small Rebels with a dropper fished ahead of the plug scored throughout most of the month.

Along the beach at Crab Meadow a few school bass were taken this past week according to Tom at **Bowman's Sporting Goods**. Most of the action has been on small Rebels, although worms, bucktails, eel worms and whiptails have also produced fish. No word of any surf activity east of here.

CHUM LINES

The installation of a New York State saltwater fishing license by all indications seems inevitable. As outlined by The Long Island Fisherman in the last several issues, it is important that this license and the monies gathered be used to the maximum toward a betterment for the saltwater sportsman. So thinking about this situation, I would like to add this though to the pot:

The initial license fee, let's say $6.00, can be reduced after the first year by the angler showing proof in the form of cancelled checks, money orders, etc., for the purchase of fish tags to be used to tag and release fish. The amount of tag purchases needed should exceed the amount of the license and be issued by the governing agency set up to manage the licensing. This would, of course, leave the angler free to choose how he would like to spend his tax money, but I'm betting that he tagging of fish would be greatly increased. This would help one sportfish through additional tagging, add to the scientific knowledge of one different species, create additional revenue for the governing agency and bring about a lot of fun and excitement to many thousands of anglers who have never tagged a fish.

In addition, a very nominal rebate on the license fee can be issued to all anglers who return a tag which has been found on a fish he has caught and been legitimized by a prior release record. *Frank Torre, Maspeth, NY.*

We disagree about fish tags, but on everything else we see eye to eye. If

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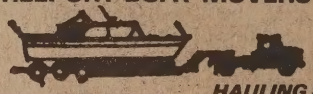
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and when a saltwater license becomes a reality, it is essential that the monies generated by the sale of the license be used right here on Long Island and lower New York to investigate and improve fishing and facilities. As a marine scientist I don't like tagging as a way of getting information. I've detailed those reasons many times in my column and in editorials. Suffice it to say, I believe there are better tools on the horizon. We aren't sure about the rebate idea. It is an idea that could be discussed, but how, when, and why will need to be hashed out at the time when a bill is designed. W. A. Muller.

ASKS ABOUT FISHING CLUBS

I buy The Long Island Fisherman every week. In your February 28 issue you have an article (The Fighting Chair); in it you mention many fishing clubs. Would it be possible to send one a list of the clubs in the New York area (Brooklyn mainly). I would appreciate it very much. *Ian Gottileb, Brooklyn, New York.*

***

If possible, please send me a list of fishing clubs in Queens, or as far east as Merrick, L.I. I was amazed to find only one listing in the Queens phone directory. I would have thought there would be many of them. If any of these clubs are family oriented, I would give these preference. Thanking you in advance. A happy subscriber. *Leonard Coon, Flushing, N.Y.*

We receive many letters from readers asking for a list of fishing clubs. Unfortunately, this is hard to do since clubs come into existence and sometimes they fade away too. Among the clubs with long histories, there is a turnover of officers and members, as well as changes in addresses and changes in meeting places. However, we do run a feature to cover this situation along with others. The section is "CLUB NEWS." Many clubs send us announcements of their functions, along with an invitation to new members. Please consult the "Club News" section regularly because during the span of a year we run dozens of such invitations from clubs in all areas. Dr. W.A. Muller.

HOW TO GET PERMIT

How and where do I go about acquiring a night fishing permit for use at a state park (ex.—Jones Beach)? *Joe DeFranco, Auburndale, New York*

***

After having been an avid party boat fisherman for the past several years, I have recently turned to surf fishing.

Up until now, my areas of fishing

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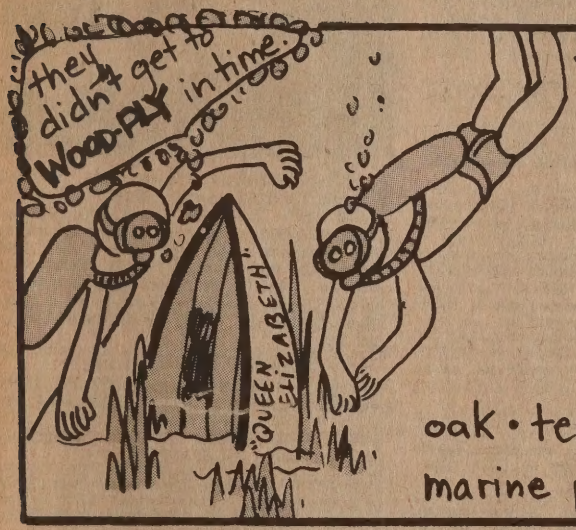

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28' PACEMAKER Sportfisherman, 250 Palmer, FWC, dual batteries. Fighting chair; outriggers, depth recorder, VHF, legal head. Full cabin. In water; excellent condition. Asking $3800. 516-735-3792.

21' CRUISER'S Bonanza, Cuddy Cabin, V Bunk, head; 155 h.p. Economical V-6, I/O. Full canvas. 516-799-6975.

20' SHARPIE, 1977 Mannino, V-bottom. Self-bailing, glassed in and out. Laminated oak and mahogany gunwales. Console; Teleflex steering. Built-in tank, compass, VHF, charter recorder. Many extras. Set up for serious fishing or work boat. Needs engine. $2800. 516-589-1857.

1979 EVINRUDES 1979

2-$256; 4-$372; 6-$550; 9.9-$700; 15-$800; 25-$940; 35-$1050; 55-$1548; 70-$1750; 85-$1825; 100-$1875; 115-$1948; 140-$2048; 150-$2516; 175-$2596; 200-$2696; 235-$2860. ELECTRA MARINE, 610 Merrick Rd., Lynbrook, NY 11563. Scott & McCulloch parts. FOB/H. 516-599-3003. We ship anywhere.

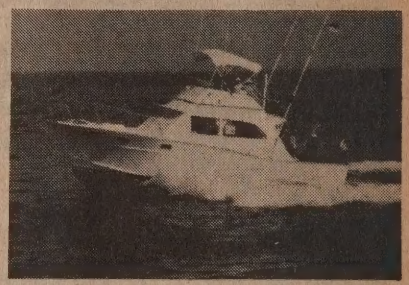
1975 PROLINE 20, 85 h.p. Evinrude. Fully equipped. Excellent condition. $3750. 212-779-3348.

31' BERTRAM 1968 Sportfisherman. Repowered twin 440 Chry. FWC. 200 hrs. VHF, CB, DF, Ross recorder. Many extras. Loaded. Mint. Asking $27,000. Ask for Joe. 212-939-6555.

New 1979 241 GRADY WHITE 24' Weekender, 235 h.p. OMC, I/O, side curtains, drop curtain; bridge canvas, power steering, horn, wiper, head. $17,215. Replacement cost 1980 would be $19,152. EDDIE'S MARINE. 212-327-3088.

29' 1971 OLSEN "SHEARWATER" MINT CONDITION, 255 Merc. inboard (3 years new), Cedar on oak, teak decks. FULLY OUTFITTED. $12,000. 516-678-5746. 516-431-8021.

23' MAKO I/B. Rigged for blue water fishing; 1975 Chrysler 225. Professionally maintained. $8200. 516-589-7005.



1978 FREEPORTER Cruiser, 36', 2 FWC Palmers 225 h.p., copper risers, 2.5:1 red'n, Monel tanks. Sleeps 6. Head with shower; complete galley, Constavolt, FWC generator 4KW. Ross recorder, VHF, CB. Tournament chair; teak cockpit; Fiberglassed decks; strip planked. Everdur fastened, double-planked bottom. Extras. Showroom condition. Dr. O'Brien Nites: 516-666-41 4. Days. 516-665-1330. Asking: $25,000.

DIESEL—DIESEL—DIESEL

Detroit Diesel: Diesel parts and equipment at the lowest prices & fastest service on the East Coast. Many small diesels also available. OLSEN DIESEL ENGINE CORP., 60 South Montgomery Ave., Bay Shore. 516-665-5599.

New Chrysler 318 Short block; 2 complete heads, cam shafts; in original crate. $550 FIRM. CAPTAIN J. McBRIDE. 516-588-1227 after 6PM, or 212-292-0505 days.

20' GLASPAR-FIBERGLAS I/O. New Buick V-6. Installed last year. New Bimini top. Complete new wiring. New floor; UHF radio. $3500. 212-946-3910.

GLASSTRON—'77 20' Center Console Fisherman w/'78 Johnson 175 h.p. outboard & '77 Teenee dbl axle trailer w/brakes. Complete pkg w/VHF radio, white line fishfinder and many extras. Ready for use. 843-3488. If no answer, business phone. 201-843-1438.

24' 1975 AQUASPORT, Cuddy Cabin, 233 Mer. I/O, FWC. "Good" automatic anchor windlass, Gemtronics white line flasher/graph recorder. Dual battery, Danforth Corsair FM, compass. Complete canvas. Much more. Fishing or family boat. Original owner. Excellent. Eves.; After 7PM. 212-821-9327. $10,000.

CHARTER or PARTY BOAT, 45' lic. 38+2; last drydocked March 15, 1980. Will sell with or without elec. 671, radar, VHF; Elec. walk-around deck. Call 516-581-3308 or 516-352-2986 anytime.

FOR SALE: 1978 Evinrude 200 with power trim. Engine used only one year, with no problems, and completely reconditioned. New plugs, points, paint on lower unit, prop. Power trim never used. Contact Al Ristori at 201-334-8059 or leave message at Fisherman, 516-725-4200.

FOR SALE: 1973 JOHNSON 115. Call 516-725-4203 till 6PM. 725-4554 till 9PM. Ask for Greg.

1977 SHAMROCK 20' Inboard, very clean; low hours. Center Console. Full canvas and side curtains. White line recorder, Penn downrigger, CB, CG equipt. Many extras. Summer dockage paid. Must sell. $9500. 516-223-2234 between 8AM and 8PM.

21' STAMAS, 140 h.p. Johnson Cuddy Cabin w/head; VHF and CB radios. Depth sounder. Full canvas. Loaded w/extras. Excellent condition. 212-357-9557.

76½ SEABIRD 21', Cuddy 235 Johnson 1978 SST; full canvas; dual battery. Tach., temp., wiper., auto. bilge. Extras. Used 2½ seasons. Excellent condition. $7995. 516-472-1840.

1978 ROBOLO R236, 200 Merc. Full canvas; low hrs., inside storage. Showroom con. $10,900. 516-929-4127.

25' CHRIS CRAFT Tournament Fisherman. Twin 130 h.p. inboards. Tuna tower. Full enclosure. Dept. Recorder; CB, Dytek temp. gauge. Clean. $8000. Days: 516-732-4060. Eves. & Wkends. 516-325-1560.

WANTED: Gray Marine 620 or similar 4 cyl. inboard engine with transmission. 516-751-0282.

1978 SISU 22' 115 h.p. 25" shaft Mercury 2-28 gal. tanks. Custom teak combing. Navy top; side curtains, VHF. Cox galvanized trailer. Excellent condition. $7000. 516-437-1036.

BOATING EQPT.

Benmar MR1Z Radome (Radar antenna) $500; 1976 Corvette automatic, loaded $7700. 516-929-4881.

INCOMPARABLE MOCAT CB from Motorola is only $89 at HEINE MARINE ELECTRONICS, 250 Montauk Highway, Islip. Shakespeare Marine "Sea BEE" antenna only $25 with radio purchase. Open daily, except Sunday, til 6PM. 516-581-0194.

Custom all Fiberglas fishbox with live well. Curved back fits flush with curved transom. Fitted cushion for top. 23x74x18½ high. $300. 516-295-4229.

Important accessory: new Scentry Gas Vapor Detector from Aqua Meter. Still in original box. Flush Mount. $75.00. 516-223-8265.

TRAILER HITCHES—The most complete Draw-tite line of Class I & II hitches in stock in L.I. Sales, installations & service. TOM CASH WELDING, Lake Ronkonkoma. 516-JU 8-6143.

POMPANETTE QUAD BASE Fighting Chair, with cover and rod-holder. Salty Dog 60" teak-top insulated fishwell. Both new and unused. $650 the Pair. 516-221-5148.

STERNMOOR DOCKING SYSTEM—Moor and board your boat in comfort and safety. Attaches to dock and snaps to transom tow eyes. Models for outboards and sterndrives to 24'. For information, write: FROG HOOKS INC., P.O. Box 150F, South Salem, NY 10590.

A.M.R. $MARINE DISCOUNTS$ With a price that any boater can afford, without paying today's inflated prices. Quality bottom paints and coatings. Free Delivery - Suffolk County. 516-654-0849.

FOREAN KUSTOM UPHOLSTERY—Custom made seats of all types. Buy local, not Florida; save freight, and middleman mark-up. FOREAN KUSTOM, 25 New York Avenue, Huntington. 516-549-9489.

BOAT TRAILERS FOR RENT—Single and tandem axle. Daily, weekly, monthly rates. Temporary & Permanent hitches for sale or rent. BARN TRAILER SERVICE, 57-06 Broadway, Woodside. NY 212-426-7039.

COMPASSES—COMPASSES—COMPASSES
Remember, if it has anything to do with compasses at all, give me a call! Huge inventory of Ritchie Compasses. Expert installation & adjustment. Authorized repair service. I also carry a complete line of binoculars, sextants, clocks, barometers. JENS JACOBS NAUTICAL SERVICE, 516-757-7169.

MISCELLANEOUS

Fiddler Crabs - wholesale. Danny Parker, Rt. 2, Box 83, Perry, Fla. 32347. 904-578-2855.

Marine Transport—T.K.'s BOAT HAULING. You call; we haul! 24 hr. Emergency Service. Local & Long Distance; launching and hauling at any desired location. Up to 35'. Fully Insured Carrier. Call: T.K., 516-623-2967.

FOR CAPTAINS ONLY. Wear our finely embroidered three color Schiffli "licensed captain" patches on your jackets, shirts, etc. Send $2.95 for each to CAPT. PAGET, 477 Waukena Ave., Oceanside, NY 11572.

DON'T HAUL—Complete underwater service. Props cleared; zincs changed; recovery. Hulls cleaned and surveyed. Insurance photos. Call ISLANDWIDE DIVERS LTD., 799-7969.

READER'S WELCOME ABOARD. 236 Woodcleft Ave., Freeport. Resin - 2 gal.-$25; knee boots-$10.95. Tarpaulins, waterproof, repairs, upholstery, gold leaf signs. 516-378-9578. Thurs.-Sun., 12-6PM.

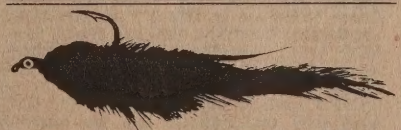
FISHERMEN'S BELT BUCKLES—Solid pewter. Beautiful antique brass finish. Striper, bluefish, tuna, porgy, fluke/flounder, shark, harpoon head. Really beautiful! $7 ea. P. MILLER, 150 Babylon Tpke., Merrick, N.Y. 11566.

$356 Weekly Guaranteed; work 2 hours daily at home. Free brochure. Write: OBN, 2371 E. 90th St., Bklyn., N.Y. 11234.

BOAT INSURANCE—All risk; 12-month policy with unrestricted navigational limits. Extremely competitive rates. Quick quotations. Paul Krause, 145 Higbie Lane, West Islip, N.Y. 11795 516-587-7837.

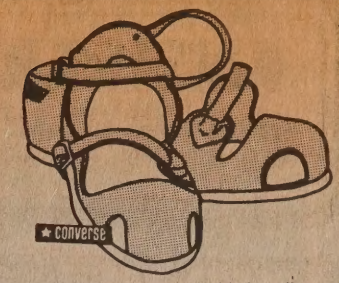
BOAT LETTERING—Have an idea? Or need one? Creative and professional work. Call: Richie, 516-666-9656.

FREE CATALOG—Fisherman's pewter belt buckles. P. Miller, 150 Babylon Tpke., Merrick, NY 11566



Droppers, teasers or whatever you call them—they're the hottest lures since the diamond jig. OUR DROPPA IS THE FINEST. Made with a 5/0 stainless hook, premium hackles and a durable finish. Proven year after year on stripers, blues, weaks, cod and pollack. Available in white, yellow, blue, olive, pink, brown, black, blue/white and olive/white. $1.39 each; 5 for $5.95, 10 for $9.95, 15 for $14.75. Conn. Resident 7% tax, include $.50 shipping. Instructions and hints included. Send to ANGLING AIDS, P.O. Box 280, Old Saybrook, Ct. 06475. Ad #804.

BOAT INSURANCE—Wide range of coverage for pleasure and commercial vessels. Personal Service. Excess Insurance. Call: 516-489-9083. GBZ COMPANY, 507 Chestnut St., West Hempstead, N.Y. 11552.



JETTY JOCKEYS—Custom studded wading sandals. Heavy duty felt-soled wading sandals are now made with replaceable stainless steel studs for extra gripping traction on slippery jetties and streams. Comfortable reinforced rubber sandals are easily secured and removed to make any boot or wader safer. Sizes are small, 5-7; medium, 8-9; large, 10-11; X-large, 12-13. Price is $32.75. Please include $1.50 shipping; Conn. residents 7% tax. Quantities are limited; available only from ANGLING AIDS, P.O. Box 280, Old Saybrook, Ct. 06475. Ad #803.

HELP WANTED—Tackle Shop. Full and part time. Knowledge of inshore and offshore fishing a must. Rod and reel repair helpful. Babylon area. 516-661-1474 after 7.

BOAT INSURANCE—Competitive rates. All types & all sizes. Also motorcycle & other recreational vehicle insurance. Premium financing arranged. EDELMAN INSURANCE, 16 W. Hoffman Ave., Lindenhurst, NY 11757. 516-226-0275.

Boat trailer repairs, parts, marine supplies & all galvanized trailers. FAZIO MFG. INC., 516-265-3036. Call Monday-Friday, 9:00-3:00.

FISHERMEN! NEED MONEY? Earn as much as you want from home as a bona fide mailer. For free details, write to: F&J Associates, P.O. Box 184, Lidenhurst, NY 11757.

FOR SALE
Complete boat business. We sell to about 80% of rental trade for past 20 yrs. on Long Island. Price of gas and old age prohibits productions. Will sell patterns, forms, jigs, special tools, lists of customers; orders on hand; parts in stock (for about 125 boats); cabin cruisers, bass boats, Garveys, semi-dories, fisherman's skiff, runabouts, rowboats, car-toppers, prams, 5-sailers. contact: TOY TOWN BOATS INC., 45 Elmwood Rd., Winchendon, Mass 01475. 617-297-0486.

WANTED: Two Rockaway Sailfish Chairs. Call Tom: 516-668-2087.

SWIMMING FLOAT-DOCK: 9'X7'X1'. About 1200 lbs. Very heavy construction; ladder, 4 handrails, 2 Danforth 75 lb. anchors and 60' heavy chain. All painted and ready. $975. 516-883-7026 or 212-867-2680.

WHOLESALE MARINE SUPPLIES
Marine fasteners wholesale. Stainless, Silicon bronze. Complete line. O-Rings, shop parts, Grade 5, 8, farm, industrial fasteners. Free Catalog and delivery Suffolk County. 516-281-3366. ARONMARINE, 61 Mastic Beach, NY. 11951.

ORIGINAL GOURMET RECIPES for the catch-and-cook fishermen. Different, delicious delicacies. Some dating to 1700s. Some simple; some sophisticated. You pick 'em, you'll love 'em. $3.25 to: "ONE-2-ONE" RECIPE COLLECTION, Box 525, Northport, N.Y. 11768.

FISHING TACKLE

Get the rig that got the RECORD! NAPPI'S DOORMAT FLUKE RIG. $1.00 each - 3 rig min. plus $.50 postage. CAPT. C. NAPPI, 54-28 Nurge Ave., Maspeth, NY 11378.

FREE CATALOG—A complete line of quality tackle at the most competitive prices. Newell, Penn, Ande, Cortland, Atom, Gibbs...just to name a few. Special items for the surf fisherman. We have CHATILLON SCALES! THE REEL ANGLER, P. O. Box 171, Bellmore, N.Y. 11710.

WE HAVE THE
ANSWER
IF YOU'VE EVER CONSIDERED MAKO, GRADY-WHITE, AQUASPORT, SEACRAFT, ETC., YOU *MUST* SEE THESE BOATS

FISHING MACHINE 24
★ *JOHNSON OUTBOARDS* ★

24' FAMILY SPORTSMAN
UNBELIEVABLE PRICES!!!
R.B. Center Marine
652 Montauk Hwy.
Center Moriches, N.Y. 11934
(516) 878-2698

LEAKS?
USE ... GLUVIT
EPOXY WATERPROOF SEALER
ENDS ALL YOUR LEAKS WITH THE STROKE OF A BRUSH
GLUVIT seeks out . . . Finds . . . Fills . . . SEALS leaks wherever they are . . . on Cabin Roofs, Decks, Hatches, part of the Hull or the complete Hull. SAVES WORK.
MARINE-TEX (*Gray or White*)
The mighty Repair Kit repairs damaged hulls, dry rot, engines and equipment

TE-KA
Startling New Way to Clean Teak
NO MORE HARD SCRUBBING! So Easy .... You'll Be Thrilled.
Simply Pour on Part A & B and Hose Off, to Original Golden Brown Beauty of Teak.
Deep Cleans In A Fraction of Time, compared to Conventional and Super Cleaners. WHY SCRUB?....WATCH "TE-KA" DO IT.
RUST-A-HOY A REAL RUST DISINTEGRATOR. Dissolves Rust, Any Thickness .... in One Application: Then Phosphates, And Protects Bare Metal, Without Etching.
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Bass, blues, bonitas, snappers. The ULTIMATE LURE, in lure fishing, made at home. Easy follow instructions. Send S.A.S.E. + $1.00 to: ULTIMATE LURE, P. O. Box 255, Greenpoint Station, Bklyn., NY 11222.

SPUG DEMO SICO VEENY

REPS WANTED TO SELL the SPUG, SICO, VEENY & the DEMO. WE HAVE THEM IN STORES ALL ALONG THE EAST COAST. These are the only metal lures that look and swim like an injured fish. They zigzag with a continuous wobbling, flashing action that fish can see from a long distance. Because these bright chrome plated lures zigzag and won't spin or plane up at any speed or depth, makes them the very best for trolling, long distance casts, jigging, carrying surgi-tubes, rubber fish tails, pork rind and bait. Please read the letter. MINNOE LURE CO., Box 98, MILFORD, CT. 06460. "Gentlemen: Thank you for forwarding the various Minnoe lures for testing. We found the spug with the surgical tube was most effective this Fall on bluefish and striped bass. This lure continually outfished all others off the south Jersey coast. F.E."

Selling large collection tackle. New/used rods-reels. From Ultra-light to trolling and surf casting. Fenwicks to 12'. Original Harnells, Conolons, Silaflex. Pack fly rods. Rodbutts, reelseats, packrod tubes. Penn International 30, squidders, surfmasters. Rebels, Bananas, jigs, Hopkins, Pink Lady. Ande, Trilene, Dacron. Hooks, tied or box. Crab nets, sinkers $.05/oz. Aluminum sidewinders. Some locks/hardware. Will consider Penn reels in trade. Ted. 212-571-0710. Nites 9-11PM

Bulldog blackfish rigs. Two Virginia hooks, heavy leader. 3 rigs - $2.50. Check or M.O.: SPENCER'S RIGS, 573 East 28th St., Bklyn, N.Y. 11210.

AUTHENTIC BLOCK TIN SQUIDS: No chrome, steel, lead or zinc! The real McCoy for the master surfcaster. Free brochure. Write "The Bluefish," P.O. Box 1, Ryder Station, Bklyn., NY 11234.

EVERYTHING for the saltwater fisherman. Quality tackle at lowest prices. Free Catalog. SALT WATER TACKLE BOX, Dept. FG, Falmouth, Mass. 02541.

Catch more fish...with superior designed saltwater rigs. Send for free catalog now!!! HUDSON TACKLE, Dept. I, P. O. Box 437, Kearny, NJ. 07032.

LIFETIME CHUM POT. All PVC construction. No metals; 1½ and 2½ qt. sizes - $15 & $20. SEAHUNTER, 198 Woodbury Rd., Huntington, NY 11743.

FLOUNDER—Three hook rig. $.99 each; three for $2.50. Check or M.O.: SPENCER'S RIGS, 573 East 28th St., Bklyn, NY 11210.

TO INQUIRERS—The 2 inch SICO with a NEW 35 lb. test ring for your POLLACK is as GOOD for TROUT as for SNAPPER BLUES. The DEMO and the 4 inch SICO can be CHANGED into POPPERS or SWIMMERS. Just change the SINGLE hook BUCKTAIL and the FISHTAIL hook, so the point of the hook faces UP or DOWN. As a POPPER, reel in before it sinks; to BOTTOM TROLL the DEMO you MUST use a SINKER. (DEADLY). The VEENY and the 3 and 4 inch SICOs are as DEADLY on WALLEYES and BASS as on WEAKFISH. The SPUGS have a NEW TYPE of SURGI-TUBE with a BIGGER hook. (DEADLY) If an INJURED MINNOW ZIGZAGS and WOBBLES a GAME fish will GRAB it quick as an EASY MEAL. The ONLY lures with this ACTION are the MINNOE LURES.

CATCH MORE FISH! Patented two-hook rigs. GUARANTEED! Flounder, fluke, weakfish, striper. Six rigs - $5.50. Free brochure. Aqua-Clear, 314 Cherry Road, Atco, NJ 08004#19

FLOUNDER KILLER RIGS: Flounders are committing suicide on this famous 3-hook rig especially designed for the "meat fisherman." Special design and construction keeps tangles at a minimum. All hand-made; finest quality material. Three completely tied rigs for $3.50. Send check or M.O. to: P. Miller, 150 Babylon Tpke., Merrick, NY 11566.

REAL ESTATE

Duck Key Condo - Fantastic Florida Keys fishing. Sleeps 4; AC; TV. Reasonable weekly or seasonal rates. 516-589-7005.

Small 2 BR Cottage; 1 block from Noyac Bay. Available for season. $2500. Swim, clam and fish. Boat livery nearby. Call 516-725-3857 Evenings.

BEACH BUGGIES

MOTOR HOME—"PACE ARROW" 1977. Sleeps 8. Very clean. Many extras. Ask. $16,000. 516-499-6906.

have been limited because of lack of a buggy. Having now remedied the situation, I would like some information on special permits needed for fishing certain Long Island areas and on permits to use the buggy on the beaches.

The specific areas of interest are as follows: Montauk—espcially the North Bar area; Moriches Inlet (East Jetty); Fire Island—Democratic Point; and Jones Beach—West End, Gilgo, and Tobay Beaches.

Also, which of the above-mentioned beaches allow buggies?

Thank you very much for any information you can provide me with. *Kenneth Lasko, Brooklyn, New York.*

A night fishing permit can be secured at any office of any park of the Long Island State Parks and Recreation Commission during regular business hours. The same permit is issued at Commission Headquarters in Belmont Lake State Park. You'll need to show your vehicle registration. There is no fee. In addition, you'll need a beach vehicle permit to run the beach at Montauk, Democrat Point, and Gilgo. This permit can be secured at those parks for which it is good. You'll need $25 beach vehicle registration, and submit to an inspection! Terms of the inspection can be secured by contacting L.I.S.P.&R.C. headquarters. There is NO general beach vehicle access at Jones Beach West End and Tobay. Beach vehicle use on the east side of Moriches Inlet requires a permit from Suffolk County, but is closed for the year. Dr. W. A. Muller.

WHEN DO SNAPPERS ARRIVE?

I would like to know, when do the snappers come into the North Shore, like Sand City? *Richard K. Ripko, E. Northport, NY.*

Generally speaking, juevenile bluefish, or snappers, swarm into our bays in June. However, they are too small to catch. They usually do not reach catchable size until about mid-July when they'll be about four inches. The timing on this varies by as much as two weeks. Generally, the South Shore is ahead of the North Shore and east end. In the Sound, good snapper fishing usually holds off until either the end of July or early August. Dr. W. A. Muller.

HIGH TIDE TABLES

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	Breakwater Harbor AM	Breakwater Harbor PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGE-PORT AM	BRIDGE-PORT PM	NEW-PORT AM	NEW-PORT PM	DATE
THUR.	9:20	9:40	10:10	10:25	10:05	10:10	11:00	11:05	12:15	12:45	12:25	12:50	9:25	9:40	5/1
FRI.	10:00	10:15	10:50	11:00	10:40	10:40	11:35	11:45	12:45	1:15	1:00	1:30	10:05	10:20	5/2
SAT.	10:35	10:55	11:25	11:40	11:20	11:15	–	12:20	1:25	1:55	1:40	2:10	10:45	11:00	5/3
SUN.	11:20	11:40	–	12:10	–	12:00	12:25	1:05	2:05	2:40	2:20	2:55	11:30	11:45	5/4
MON.	–	12:10	12:25	1:00	12:00	12:55	1:10	1:55	2:50	3:30	3:05	3:45	–	12:20	5/5
TUE.	12:35	1:10	1:15	1:55	12:55	1:50	2:00	2:55	3:45	4:20	4:00	4:40	12:40	1:20	5/6
WED.	1:30	2:10	2:15	3:00	1:55	2:50	3:05	3:55	4:35	5:20	4:55	5:40	1:40	2:20	5/7
THUR.	2:30	3:15	3:20	4:05	3:00	3:50	4:15	5:00	5:40	6:25	6:00	6:40	2:45	3:20	5/8

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES:

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet.....—0 50" is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." —0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6 ½ hours to this figure.

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+ 0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	—0 01
Red Bank, Navesink R.I.	+ 0 48
Long Branch	—0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	—0 18
Shark River Basin	+ 0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	—0 12
Seaside Park	—0 33
Mantoloking Bridge	+ 5 34
TOMS RIVER	+ 4 37
Waretown	+ 2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	—0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+ 2 33
Beach Haven	+ 1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	—0 01
Seven Islands	+ 0 12
Graveling Point	+ 1 05
Mullica River	+ 1 55
Grassy Bay	+ 1 08
ABSECON INLET	+ 0 14
Atlantic City Pier	—0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+ 0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+ 0 46
CORSON INLET	+ 0 09
TOWNESEND INLET	+ 0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+ 0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+ 0 45
Cape May Harbor	—0 02
Rehoboth Beach	—0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+ 0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	—0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+ 1 25
East Quogue	+ 2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+ 1 18
Indian Reservation	+ 3 05
MORICHES INLET	—0 56
Smith's Point	+ 3 28
Harts Cove	+ 1 30
Potunck Point	+ 3 35
Mastic Beach	+ 3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	—0 38
Democrat Point	—0 38
Coast Guard Station	—0 19
Fire Island Light	+ 0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+ 3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+ 3 20
Bay Shore	+ 2 23
Babylon	+ 2 12
Amityville	+ 2 21
JONES INLET	—0 19
Zachs Bay	+ 1 25
Seaford Harbor	+ 2 05
Freeport Creek	+ 0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+ 0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+ 0 38
JFK Airport	+ 0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+ 0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+ 0 08
Bayville Bridge	+ 0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+ 0 03
Northport Bay	+ 0 03
Norwalk Islands	+ 0 10
Smithtown Bay	—0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+ 0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+ 0 03
New Haven Harbor	+ 0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	—0 08
Herod Point	—0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+ 0 19
Horton Point	—0 20
Truman Beach	—0 42
Falkner Island	—0 13
Sachem Head	—0 10
Branford Harbor	—0 07
New Haven Harbor	—0 08
Milford Harbor	—0 07
Stratford	+ 0 27
Shelton	+ 1 36
Black Rock Harbor	—0 03
Saugatuck River	—0 01
South Norwalk	+ 0 10
Greens Ledge	—0 01
Stamford	+ 0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+ 0 06
Greenwich	+ 0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+ 0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+ 0 12
Greenport	+ 1 04
Southold	+ 1 43
New Suffolk	+ 2 26
South Jamesport	+ 2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+ 2 33
Noyack Bay	+ 2 05
Sag Harbor	+ 0 59
Gardiners Bay	+ 0 21
Promised Land	—0 14
Montauk Inlet	—0 25
Montauk Point	—1 13
Niantic	+ 1 20
Stonington	—0 33
Noank, Mystic River	—0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	—0 01
Norwich	+ 0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+ 1 10
Lyme	+ 1 24
Essex	+ 1 38
East Haddam	+ 2 41
Higganum Creek	+ 2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	—0 10
Execution Light	—0 06
Manhasset Bay	—0 01
Hempstead Harbor	—0 11
City Island	—0 03
Rye Beach	—0 28
Port Chester	—0 09
Mamaroneck	—0 08
New Rochelle	—0 24
Davids Island	—0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	—0 10
Miami Beach	+ 1 17
East Point	+ 0 53
Egg Island Point	+ 0 33
Cape Henlopen	—0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+ 0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+ 0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+ 0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+ 0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+ 0 46
Spuyten Duyvil	+ 0 58
Ossining	+ 1 53
Peekskill	+ 2 24
West Point	+ 3 16
Newburg	+ 3 42

On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	—0 10
Tiverton	+ 0 21
Beavertail Point	—0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+ 0 10
Bristol	+ 0 10
Warren	+ 0 21
Nayatt Point	+ 0 12
Pawtucket	+ 0 21
East Greenwich	+ 0 16
Wickford	+ 0 12
Narragansett Pier	—0 08
Point Judith Harbor	—0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+ 0 05
Old Harbor	—0 14
Watch Hill Point	+ 0 44

SUNRISE/SUNSET

5/2	6:16	7:38
5/3	6:15	7:39
5/4	6:15	7:39
5/5	6:14	7:40
5/6	6:13	7:40
5/7	6:13	7:41
5/8	6:12	7:42

PHASES OF THE MOON

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	2nd Qtr.
5/14	5/21	5/29	5/7

The Original Knight SOLUNAR TABLES When To Fish Or Hunt

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour-and-a-half or two hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type.

	AM		PM	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Thurs	5:50	12:55	6:20	12:30
Fri.	6:40	—	7:10	1:25
Sat.	7:40	1:55	8:05	2:20
Sun.	8:35	2:50	9:00	3:15
Mon.	9:30	3:45	9:55	4:10
Tues.	10:25	4:45	10:55	5:10
Wed.	11:25	5:40	11:50	6:10
Thurs.	—	6:30	12:25	7:00

Makes your mates feel welcome.

Your whole family will feel comfortable on a Grady-White walk-around.

Some offshore fishing boats are pretty tough on people. But, not Grady-White walk-arounds. Grady-White walk-around cabin fishing machines give you and your mates the added protection of a cabin, windshield, top, and side curtains. Plus, a marine head if you need it. Now, you can welcome your whole family aboard for a day offshore. They'll feel welcome because they'll be comfortable.

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Grady-White walk-arounds are comfortable. But, they're rugged fishing machines too. Solid, proven hull designs are hand-laid fiberglass, overlapped in water-shock areas. Full fiberglass liners make maintenance easy. Plus, insulated fish boxes and ice boxes, rod racks, and storage are built-in and organized for a fisherman. When you take your family and friends outside in a Grady-White, you have a solid North Carolina fishing machine between you and the water.

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